SUDAN
COUNTRY REPORT

April 2004

Country Information & Policy Unit

IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY DIRECTORATE
HOME OFFICE, UNITED KINGDOM

CONTENTS

1.   SCOPE OF DOCUMENT

1.1 This Country Report has been produced by the Country Information and Policy Unit, Immigration and Nationality Directorate, Home Office, for use by Home Office officials involved in the asylum / human rights determination process. The Report provides general background information about the issues most commonly raised in asylum / human rights claims made in the United Kingdom. It is not a detailed or comprehensive survey.

1.2 The Report is compiled from a wide range of recognised sources and does not contain any Home Office opinion or policy. All information in the Report is attributed, throughout the text, to original source material, which has been made available to those working in the asylum / human rights determination process. The Report aims to provide only a brief summary of the source material quoted. For a more detailed account, the relevant source documents should be examined directly.

1.3 The information contained in this Country Report is, by its nature, limited to information that we have been able to identify from various well-recognised sources. The contents of this Report are not exhaustive and the absence of information under any particular heading does not imply that any analysis or judgement has been exercised to exclude that information, but simply that relevant information on the subject has not been identified from the sources that have been consulted. Equally, the information included in the Reports should not be taken to imply anything beyond what is actually stated.

1.4 The great majority of the source material is readily available in the public domain. Copies of other source documents, such as those provided by government offices, may be provided upon request.

1.5 All sources have been checked for currency, and as far as can be ascertained, contain information, which remained relevant at the time, this Report was issued. Some source documents have been included because they contain relevant information not available in more recent documents.

1.6 This Country Report and the accompanying source material are publicly disclosable. Where sources identified in this Report are available in electronic form the relevant link has been included. The date that the relevant link was accessed in preparing the report is also included. Paper copies of the source documents have been distributed to nominated officers within IND.

1.7 It is intended to revise this Report on a six-monthly basis while the country remains within the top 35 asylum producing countries in the United Kingdom. Information contained in Country Reports is inevitably overtaken by events that occur between the 6 monthly publications. Caseworkers are informed of such changes in country conditions by means of Country Information Bulletins.

2.   GEOGRAPHY

2.1 The Republic of the Sudan has a landmass of some 2,505,813 sq km (967,500 sq miles) and is the largest country in Africa. [1] [7] Egypt borders Sudan to the north, the Red Sea, Eritrea and Ethiopia are to the east of Sudan, Kenya, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo are to the south and the Central African Republic, Chad and Libya are to the west. [7] The capital city, Khartoum [947,483], is situated at the confluence of the Blue and White Nile Rivers. [1] Other major cities include Port Sudan [308,195], Kassala [234,622], Nyala [227,183] and Juba [114,980]*. [1]
*Population at 1993 census

2.2 The country is administratively divided into 26 states which all have governors appointed by the president. The names of the 26 states are:

Al-Buhayrat (s)	Red Sea
Bahr al-Jabal (s)	River Nile
Blue Nile	Sennar
Eastern Equatoria (s)	Southern Darfur

Gadarif	Southern Kordofan
Gezira	Upper Nile (s)
Jonglei (s)	Wahdah (s)
Kassala	Warab (s)
Khartoum	Western Bahr al-Ghazal (s)
Northern	Western Darfur
Northern Bahr al-Ghazal (s)	Western Equatoria (s)
Northern Darfur	Western Kordofan
Northern Kordofan	White Nile. [1] [25e]

(s) Denotes state controlled by the SPLM/A in April 2004. (N.B. There are disputed areas of particular importance: Southern Blue Nile, Abyei province and the Nuba Mountains.) [15s] [25e]

2.3 Sudan has an estimated population of around twenty-seven and a half million made up of more than 500 Arab and black African ethnic groups. [3a] (p 22) 40% of the population are Arabs; the largest ethnic group in Sudan and Arabic is the official language, spoken by 52% of the population. [5] Many other languages are spoken and English is widely understood. [5] The northern states cover most of Sudan. [25e] According to the USSD Report for 2003, "Northern Muslims, who formed a majority of approximately 16 million persons, traditionally have dominated the Government" whilst "The southern ethnic groups fighting the civil war (largely followers of traditional indigenous religions or Christians) total approximately 6 million." [3a] (p 22)

For a detailed history, including Sudanese history prior to 1989, refer to Europa's 'Africa South of the Sahara - 2004'. [1]

3.   ECONOMY

3.1 As a result of oil export earnings in 1999-2000, Sudan recorded a trade surplus for the first time in the country's modern history. [1] According to Europa's 'World Year Book, 2003', agriculture contributed approximately thirty-seven percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2000 and about sixty percent of the labour force were employed in agriculture during 2001. [1]

3.2 The national currency is the Dinar (1 Dinar = 100 piastres). [5] According to the World Bank, in 2002 Sudan's gross national income per capita was US$390 although this may not be an accurate reflection of the actual income of the majority of Sudanese. [52] Exchange rate at 7 April 2004 GB£1 = 486 Sudanese Dinars or US$1 = 264 Sudanese Dinars. [30a] [30b]

4.   HISTORY

1989 - April 2004: The al-Bashir Regime

4.1 On 30 June 1989, a bloodless coup, led by Brigadier Omar Hassan Ahmad al-

Bashir (later to become Lt. General) removed al-Mahdi's Government and formed a 15-member Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation (RCC). [1] A state of emergency was declared and President al-Bashir proceeded to dismantle the civilian ruling apparatus, the constitution and the National Assembly. [1] All trade unions and political parties were abolished and civilian newspapers were closed down. [1] Several attempts to negotiate a peace settlement to the civil war failed, mainly because of the issue of Shari'a law. [1] The first legislative and presidential elections to be held since 1989 took place during 6-17 March 1996 and al-Bashir was elected for a five-year term. [1]

4.2 In December 1999, President al-Bashir declared a state of emergency and disbanded the National Assembly two days before it was to vote on a constitutional amendment that would have reduced his presidential powers. [7] The amendment called for the creation of a Prime Minister who, though appointed by the president, would be accountable to the National Assembly. [7] This reduced the power of the Parliamentary Speaker and chairman of the ruling political party, the National Islamic Front (NIF), Hassan al-Turabi. President al-Bashir suspended articles of the constitution and suspended the political activity of Hassan al-Turabi. [7] On 24 January 2000, President al-Bashir formed a new government, and in May 2000 he froze all activities of the ruling political party. [7] The political rift between the president and al-Turabi became more apparent in June 2000 when al-Turabi launched his own opposition political party called the Popular National Congress (PNC). [1]

4.3 Presidential and parliamentary elections took place from 13 to 22 December 2000. Sudan's National Elections Authority (NEA) declared President al-Bashir the winner of the Presidential Election, which had four other candidates. [12c] Al-Bashir won 86.5% of the votes while runner-up Gaafar Nimeri won 9.6% of the votes. [12c] Sudan's ruling National Congress won 355 out of the 360 National Assembly seats in the Parliamentary Election. Independent candidates won the remainder of the seats. [12c] The Government of Sudan extended the state of emergency, which was first declared in December 1999, for a further year in December 2000 and 2001. [1] (p 1013, 1014)

Events of 2002 - 2004

4.4 A ceasefire in the Nuba Mountains area became effective in January 2002 after the Government and the SPLM/A signed a ceasefire agreement in that month. [15c] The Government and the SPLM/A agreed to renew the ceasefire for a further six months from 20 July 2002. [18b] The ceasefire was brokered by the American and Swiss governments. [15c] The JMC comprises of representatives from the Government, the SPLM/A and an international monitoring presence, including military and civilian staff. [15c] All the parties involved have respected the ceasefire. [15c]

4.5 The efforts of US envoy John Danforth brought about the signing of a ceasefire agreement in March 2002, which also included a commitment by both sides to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure from military operations. [27] The SPLM/A

stated that, despite this progress, they would continue to attack oil installations as the profits from the oil industry are used to fund the Government's war effort. [27] In June 2002 a new round of peace talks between the Government and the SPLA opened in Machakos, Kenya. [1] Fighting between the two sides continued, despite the ongoing talks and there were a number of reports of heavy civilian casualties in southern towns because of the government's forces bombing raids. [1]

4.6 On 20 July 2002, the Sudanese Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) signed the Machakos Protocol. [21] This provided a framework for a comprehensive agreement intended to eventually end the civil war and conclusively define the political and constitutional status of southern Sudan. [21] The majority of southern Sudanese, whether living in Sudan or elsewhere in the world, cautiously endorsed the Machakos Protocol. [21] The peace agreement addressed the core grievances of the southern rebels - the right to self-determination and the separation of religion and state. [22] The agreement allows for a referendum on the issue of self-determination of the southern Sudanese after six years. [22] In the interim, it was envisaged that the south will be ruled by a partly independent, secular government and will not be subject to Shari'a law. [22]

4.7 The Machakos peace talks resumed in August 2002 but the Sudanese Government suspended them in September 2002 following the SPLA capture of the town of Torit in southern Sudan. [1] Government forces recaptured Torit in October 2002 and, later that month, the two sides signed a ceasefire agreement when the peace talks reconvened. [1] However, both the government and the SPLA accused each other of breaking the agreement. [1] The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the regional body overseeing the peace talks, stated that both sides had agreed to extend the "Memorandum on the Cessation of Hostilities" until 31 March 2003. [15a] The Government extended the State of Emergency for a further twelve months in December 2002. [1] [15b]

4.8 The Nuba Mountain ceasefire agreement, which was renewed again in January 2003 for a further six months and a resumption of the Machakos peace talks occurred in mid-January 2003. [15c] [1] In March 2003, the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A), which was previously a secessionist group known as the Darfur Liberation Front (DLF), released a statement that stated its aim was to create a united democratic Sudan on the foundation of equality and decentralisation of power. [15t] (p 1) [15q] (p 9) A similar rebel group, the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), also apparently emerged in 2003. [15v] (p 1) In March 2003, the Government and the SPLA agreed to extend their ceasefire to 30 June 2003. [15d] IRIN reported that the Government and the Sudan Liberation Army had signed a ceasefire accord on 3 September 2003 that was due to take effect on 6 September 2003 for a period of 45 days. [15o]

4.9 In October 2003 al-Turabi was released and the PNC's offices, which had been occupied by Government forces during most of 2003, were returned to the PNC. [3a] (p 7, 8, 9) [11c] (p 1) [67a] It would appear, from various news reports, that al-Turabi swiftly recommenced his poltical activities after his release; conducting interviews, holding meetings and making what could be considered provocative speeches in which he

was openly critical of the ruling National Congress. **[65b] [67a] [67b] [67c] [71] [72b] [65c] [73a]**

4.10 In November 2003, the Khartoum-based newspaper Al-Sahafah reported that Lam Akol's Sudan People's Liberation Movement- United (SPLM-United) had announced that it was to merge with the mainstream SPLM/A, politically and militarily, under the name of the SPLM. **[65g]** In the same month, Sudanese news sources reported that the political forces and parties of Nile State in central Sudan had reiterated their support for all the efforts and energy to achieve a just peace in the country, while senior members of the Ummah Party, DUP and the PNC, including al-Mirghani, held talks with the representatives of the Government and/or the SPLM. **[70a] [66a] [74b]** The ceasefire between the Government and the SLM/A remained in force only until early December 2003 at which point the SLM/A refused to continue with the peace talks because the ceasefire had been so frequently violated. **[15u]**

4.11 In December 2003, the Kenyan Daily Nation's web site reported that "A senior US [United States] official said his government would spend up to 54bn shillings (700m dollars) in three years to rebuild Sudan once peace is restored." **[77]** Despite announcements of good progress and predictions of when a final peace agreement was expected throughout 2003, no final agreement had been reached by the beginning of 2004. **[1] [15k] [45]** The Sudan Human Rights Organisation (SHRO) Report on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' reported that military confrontation between Government forces and the SPLM/A, although the ceasefire agreement was generally preserved. **[61] (p 1)** SHRO's Report for 2003 stated the peace talks were successful in achieving agreement on areas such as security arrangements and wealth distribution during 2003 and at the beginning of 2004. **[61] (p 1)** But the Report also pointed to the absence of investigations into human rights abuses and and crimes from the agenda and that the subject of a shift to democracy was not discussed openly or in any detail. **[61] (p 1)**

4.12 The Deutsche Presse Agentur reported in January 2004 that the Nuba Mountain ceasefire agreement had been renewed for a further six months and was still being monitored by the Joint Military Commission/Mission (JMC/JMM), with the co-operation of the Government of Sudan and the SPLM/A. **[79]** According to a British Broadcasting Company (BBC) News report in January 2004 the African and Middle Eastern media exuded a strong sense of optimism following the signing of a wealth-sharing agreement by the Government and the SPLM. **[14i]**

4.13 According to the BBC, in February 2004, the SLM/A and the JEM claimed to have been on the offensive in the conflict in Darfur only days after President al-Bashir had declared that the Darfurian rebels had been defeated. **[14j]** The BBC also reported that the rebels had rejected the President's offer of a general amnesty. **[14j]** According to a February 2004 report from the Al-Khartoum newspaper, the NC had expressed readiness to work with other political and social activists in the search for a solution to the situation in Darfur. **[64a]**

4.14 A report published on the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) web site in March 2004 stated that Lam Akol, who had recently realigned with the SPLM, had carried out a rocket-propelled-grenade attack against aid workers in Western Upper Nile region.

[67g] In March 2004, the Suna news agency reported that the Equatoria Defence Force (EDF) had also merged under the name of the SPLM. **[49c]** Sudan Television reported in March 2003 that the Government and the SPLM had extended their truce for a further month, from 1 to 30 April 2003, and that they had also agreed to extend the civilian protection agreement for a period of one year, until 31 March 2005. **[69i] [69h]**

4.15 On 30 March 2004, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) that "Sudan's authorities have arrested a number of opposition politicians and army officers over a possible plot to overthrow President Omar al-Bashir." **[14h] (p 1)** Over the next few days the BBC reported that military officers and PNC members, including al-Turabi, had been arrested; that the PNC's headquarters were shut down and that the party had been suspended from poltical activity. **[14g] (p 1) [14f] (p 1) [14e] (p 1)** According to an April 2003 report on Voice of Sudan radio, al-Turabi's supporters refuted the Government's allegations. **[63b]** Sudan Television reported on 6 April 2004, that "Twenty four members of the [United] Democratic Salvation Front [coalition of southern Sudan rebel groups aligned with the government] have announced their joining of the [ruling party] National Congress [NC]." **[69g]**

4.16 In early April 2004 Al-Khartoum newspaper and the Democratic Unionist Party web site reported on positive developments concerning the peace agreement. **[64c] [67h]** The former reported on 8 April 2004 that the accord was likely to be signed in the next three days and the latter stated that agreement had been reached on the issues of power sharing and the three disputed regions of Abyei, southern Blue Nile and the Nuba Mountains. **[64c] [67h]** Al-Khartoum quoted Lazarus Sumbeiywo, the Kenyan chief mediator, as saying that "What is left is far less than what it [sic] has been achieved so far." **[64c]** However, the peace agreement was still not signed as of 28 April 2004. **[43f]**

4.17 On 7 April 2004 the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, in an address to the UN Human Rights Commission, referred to the forcible displacement of deliberately targeted communities and stated that, "Whatever terms it uses to describe the situation [in Darfur], the international community cannot stand idle." **[2c] (p 2)** The Suna News Agency reported that the Sudanese Government's response to Annan's statement was to state that Darfur required humanitarian aid, not foreign intervention, and to describe the allegations of ethnic cleansing in the region as baseless. **[49d] [49e]**

4.18 Conversely, the BBC and Sudan Television reported, also on 8 April 2004, that the N'djamena agreement, a ceasefire and a protocol on the delivery of humanitarian aid to Darfur, had been signed by the Government, the SLM/A and the JEM, whilst the Republic of Sudan Radio stated that the government claimed to be committed to providing security and necessary needs in Darfur and that those affected by the conflict would be compensated. **[14m] [14o] [69j] [70b]** The BBC report stated that "Sudan analyst Eva Dadrian from the Africa Analysis newsletter said it will be hard for the government to reign [sic] in the Arab militia – the Janjaweed – which have been leading the attacks on black civilians in Darfur." **[14m]**

4.19 According to a Sudan Human Rights Organisation (SHRO) press release of 16 April 2004 "Atrocities by Sudanese Soldiers and Janjaweed in Darfur Continue Despite Ceasefire." **[61c]** A Sudan Human Rights Organisation (SHRO) press release

of 16 April 2004 stated that "Atrocities by Sudanese Soldiers and Janjaweed in Darfur Continue Despite Ceasefire." [61c] Whilst, the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) reported in an 'Urgent Campaigns' article of 29 April 2004 that, according to information it had received, forty-five civilians had reportedly been executed as a result of attacks in Darfur and that 14 persons continued to be detained in violation of the ceasefire. [42c] (p 1) A BBC news report dated 30 April 2004 stated "Chadian troops have deployed on their border after a clash with Sudan forces." [14p]

For a detailed history, including Sudanese history prior to 1989, refer to Europa's 'Africa South of the Sahara - 2004'. [1]

5. STATE STRUCTURES

The Constitution

5.1 Following the 1989 coup that brought the present regime to power, the constitution of the previous regime was abolished. [1] In October 1997, a constitutional committee was formed to draft a new constitution, which was approved by the National Assembly in April 1998. [1] A referendum on the new constitution was held in May 1998 and the result was in favour of the new constitution. [1] The new constitution came into force on 1 July 1998. [1] Under the constitution, executive power is vested in the Council of Ministers, which is appointed by the president but responsible to the National Assembly. [1] Legislative power is vested in the National Assembly. [1]

For more detail on its individual articles and provisions refer to the Constitution of the Republic of Sudan. [4]

5.2 The Constitution stated that Shari'a, the Constitution and custom are the source of Sudanese law. [4] (p 12) It provided for basic human rights such as the right to life and equality, freedom of association, right to privacy, immunity against arbitrary arrest and detention, freedom of expression and the press, freedom of religion and freedom of movement. [4] However, the adoption of the Constitution did not end the Government's restriction of civil liberties and in 1999, President al-Bashir suspended the Constitution, disbanded Parliament and declared a State of Emergency, which remained in effect as of April 2004 following its renewal for a further year in late December 2003. [1] [62]

See Section 6: Human Rights for details on the treatment of specific groups and the restriction of fundamental freedoms in relation to the Constitution

THE POLITICAL SYSTEM

5.3 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "Sudan has an authoritarian

government in which all effective political power was in the hands of President Omar Hassan al-Bashir." [3a] (p 1) Sudan has a federal government structure made up of 26 states, each with a governor appointed by the president. [1]

For a detailed history, including Sudanese history prior to 1989, refer to Europa's 'Africa South of the Sahara - 2004. [1]

5.4 Since 1989, real power has rested with the National Islamic Front (NIF), later renamed the National Congress (NC), of which Hassan al-Turabi, who became Speaker of the National Assembly in 1996, was leader. [1] NC members held key positions in the Government, security forces and judiciary, academic institutions and the media. [3a] (p 1) The legislature is the unicameral National Assembly. [5] Members of the National Assembly are elected by popular vote in parliamentary elections every four years. [5] Of the 360 members of the National Assembly, 270 are directly elected in constituencies, 35 are women representatives, 26 are university graduate representatives and 29 are representatives of the trade unions. [5]

5.5 Presidential and parliamentary elections were held in December 2000. President al-Bashir was re-elected as president and the National Congress won 355 out of 360 seats in Parliament. [1] [12c] Independent candidates or small opposition parties won the other seats. [1] [12c] The election results were tarnished by the fact that not all voters reportedly had adequate opportunity to vote, all the major opposition parties chose to boycott the election and did not accept the officially declared voter turnout. [1]

Political Parties

5.6 The 1999 Political Association Act lifted the ban on political parties. [7] The Act, as revised by the 2000 Political Organisational Act, allows political parties to be officially recognised provided they register with the Government. [7] The law, however, imposes the restriction that all new parties must adhere to the ruling party's ideology. [7] New political parties are approved at the discretion of the Government's registrar and the president with the approval of the National Assembly appoints the registrar. [7]

5.7 According to the USSD Report for 2003 "The amended Political Parties Act allows some former banned political parties to resume their activities; however, the parties still were unable to participate in elections unless the registrar was notified in writing." [3a] (p 15) Even when a party has registered under the Act, the authorities can still restrict its activities. [11b] (p 2)

See Section 6.A: Freedom of Assembly and Association and Section 6.B: Opposition Political Parties

The Judiciary

5.8 The judiciary was not independent and was largely subject to Government control. [3a] (p 1) A Judiciary Committee nominated the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who was then appointed by the president. [3a] (p 7) The Chief Justice was the senior judge in the judicial service and, as such, he controlled the judiciary. [3a] (p 7) According to the USSD Report for 2003 "On occasion, courts displayed a degree of independence." [3a] (p 7) Appeal Courts on several occasions have reversed the decisions of lower courts in political cases; especially those made by Public Order Courts. [3a] (p 7)

5.9 The judicial system included four types of courts; regular courts, both civil and criminal; special mixed security courts; military courts and tribal courts in rural areas to resolve disputes over land, water rights and family matters. [3a] (p 7) Within the regular court system, there were civil and criminal courts, appeal courts and the Supreme Court with Public Order cases being heard in criminal courts. [3a] (p 7 - 8) Shari'a is applied in the North and there have been reports of the prosecution and conviction of non-Muslims under Shari'a "huddud" laws. [3a] (p 8)

5.10 The Constitutional Court was established in April 1999 to protect the Bill of Rights that was enshrined in the constitution. [7] The Court's main function is to examine draft laws to ensure that the National Assembly does not adopt laws that conflict with the constitution. [7] Any individual whose rights have been violated can lodge a complaint with the Constitutional Court when all other remedies have been exhausted and the President with the approval of the National Assembly appoints members of the Constitutional Court. [7]

5.11 Special three-person Security Courts adjudicate a wide range of offences, including violations of constitutional decrees, emergency regulations and currency and drug offences. [3a] (p 8) Special Courts, on which both military but primarily civil judges sit, handle most security-related cases. [3a] (p 8) Attorneys may advise defendants but normally may not address the court and lawyers protest that they are sometimes granted access to court documents too late to prepare an effective defence. [3a] (p 8) Sentences were usually severe and implemented immediately, although death sentences are referred to the Chief Justice and the head of state. [3a] (p 8) Special Courts did operate in Darfur during 2003, as allowed by the State of Emergency. [3a] (p 8)

5.12 In May 2001, the Government established eight Emergency Tribunals or Special Courts in North and South Darfur in the western part of the country to try banditry cases. [3a] (p 8) [2] (p 16) The Emergency Tribunals were composed three judges, one civil and two military. [3a] (p 8) [2] (p 16) In January 2003, the Special Rapporteur (SR) reported that defendants were given legal representation but this was limited for the sake of speed and no time was allowed for individual cross-examination. [2] (p 16) However, the USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Defendants were not permitted access to legal representation." [3a] (p 8) The Emergency Tribunals ordered sentences such as death by stoning and amputations during 2003 and the sentences were carried out quickly, with only one week allowed for an appeal to be lodged and there were reports that some some persons were executed only one day

after sentencing. **[3a] (p 8)**

5.13 The SR stated that "He was told that there were serious problems linked to (a) gangsters and armed banditry; (b) drug traders; (c) trade in weapons; (d) tribal clashes; that if special courts had not been established, tribes would resort to revenge; that procedures adopted by special courts allowed for cases to be processed faster." **[2] (p 16)**

See Section 6.C: <u>Darfur</u> and <u>Oppostion Political Groups - Darfur</u>

5.14 Civil authorities and institutions reportedly did not operate in parts of the rebel-held south and the Nuba Mountains during 2003. **[3a] (p 8)** Parts of the South and Nuba Mountains fall outside of effective judicial measures and other government functions and, according to credible reports, government security forces summarily tried and punished persons accused of crimes, particularly for offences against civil order. **[3a] (p 8)**

5.15 Magistrates in the areas in SPLM/A control follow a penal code generally based on the 1925 Penal Code and the SPLM has a judicial system of county magistrates, county judges, regional judges and a Court of Appeals. **[3a] (p 8)** While officials have been appointed for most of these positions, the court system reportedly did not function in many areas due to a lack of infrastructure, communications, funding and an effective police force. **[3a] (p 8)** The SR reported that perpetrators of abuses were reportedly sometimes brought to justice, although the judiciary often acted on an arbitrary basis. **[2] (p 14)**

5.16 According to the USSD Report for 2003 "The SPLM recognized traditional courts or 'Courts of Elders,' which usually heard matters of personal affairs such as marriages and dowries, and based their decisions on traditional and customary law. **[3a] (p 8)** These courts were usually presided over by local chiefs whilst, in rural areas outside effective SPLM control, tribal chiefs applied customary laws. **[3a] (p 8)**

5.17 The Government officially exempted the southern states, whose population was mostly non-Muslim, from parts of the 1991 Criminal Act, although the Act does permit the future application of Shari'a law in the south if the state assemblies so decide. **[3a] (p 4)**

See Section 6: <u>Human Rights</u> for details on the treatment of specific groups and the restriction of fundamental freedoms in relation to the effectiveness and independence of the judiciary

MILITARY SERVICE AND THE POPULAR DEFENCE FORCE

5.18 The law governing military service is the National Service Act 1992,which makes national service compulsory for all males aged between 18 and 33. **[19]** The Act was introduced in an attempt to meet the increasing personnel needs of the

armed forces. [19]

For more detail on its individual articles and provisions refer to the Sudan National Service Act. [25a]

5.19 The Ministry of National Defence is the government department in overall control of National Service but the administration of National Service is carried out by the National Service Administration. [25a] National Service does not always entail military service as there are alternatives to military service but those called up have no choice as to what kind of National Service they do. [25a]

5.20 Persons called for National Service must serve in the Sudanese army, the police force, the Public Order Police, in one of the other security forces, in government departments and public projects for social and economic development. [25a] The Government pays people drafted into National Service for their services. [25a] Men who have completed their military service receive a certificate stating their National Service has been completed and are exempt from future National Service call-ups. [25a]

5.21 In order to make it easier for the military authorities to recruit students, all students' birth certificates were passed to the military authorities in May 1997. [9a] Students who have not completed their National Service cannot obtain an exit visa. [9a] Students are required to complete military service before they are issued with their examination certificates that are needed if they intend to go onto further education. [9a] Virtually all students at Khartoum University have thus completed their military service and many have been deployed at the front in the south. [9a] Many students avoid military service by seeking refuge abroad, especially in Egypt, with their families. [9a]

5.22 The penalty for refusing to perform military service is a fine and up to three years imprisonment. [9b] However, in 2003, no one was sentenced to a term in jail for evading compulsory military service. [3a] (p 22) It is reportedly difficult to evade military service and a deserter from the army or PDF on arrest by the authorities will usually be re-conscripted into the armed forces. [9a] The right to conscientious objection is not legally recognised. [19]

5.23 General conscription into the Popular Defence Force (PDF) also occurred in Sudan. [9a] The PDF was created by the Government in 1990 and has its legal basis in the Popular Defence Forces Act 1989. [19] PDF training involves military training, civil defence training and patriotic and cultural education. [19]

5.24 The period served in the PDF is 45 days and national service in the regular army lasts for two years. [9a] After serving in the PDF, recruits are either returned to their place of education if they are university students or to the front in the south. [9a] Girls are also recruited into the PDF but they work in health and social care and therefore are not required to be on active war service at the front. [9b]

5.25 The Special Rapporteur's (SR) January 2003 reported that "Forced recruitment is reportedly ongoing [in SPLM/A-controlled areas]." **[2] (p 15)**

5.26 In its 2002 Annual Report, the ICRC reported that "Significant progress was made in implementing IHL [International Humanitarian Law] at national level" including the introduction of IHL into the Sudanese Army's standard training and the incorporation of a forty-four hour course into the SPLA main training facility's standard curricula. **[58d] (p 105, 105 - 6, p 106)**

See Section 6: <u>Human Rights</u> for details on the effectiveness of the IHL training

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Conscription

5.27 One military conscription procedure is for the military authorities to send prospective conscripts their call-up papers. **[9a]** If those called up for military service in this way fail to report to the military authorities, they will have their pay withheld at work. **[9a]** If they still fail to present themselves to the military authorities, they will be dismissed from their job. **[9a]** This applies whether the persons concerned work in the public sector or private sector.

5.28 There are three other common forms of recruitment to the Popular Defence Force and the armed forces:

- Students (at secondary school) faced with the need to collect their examination certificates;
- Round-ups in the street or other public places such as markets, sports grounds, cinemas and bus stations;
- Call-up via employers (in both the public and private sectors). **[9a]**

Other methods of call-up include local radio and television announcements that all men eligible for military service should gather together at a specific place, on a certain hour and date. **[31e]** In case of emergency, the Military Police may close main highways and roads to check for and arrest those persons who are eligible for military service. **[31e]** It is thought that, in more rural areas, local notables such as chiefs or heads of clan would be held responsible for ensuring that anyone eligible for military service should report at the proper place and time. **[31e]**

5.29 Every person called for National Service should present himself to the Region Recruitment Administration in his residential area on the date specified by that authority. **[9b]** The Recruitment Administration should verify identity and hand him a Service Identity Card; inform him of the date he will be called for service and mark his ID card with the assignment prepared for him. **[9b]** Holders of the Service ID card should present their cards to their new area of residence service administration within two weeks from the date he changed his area of residence. **[9b]**

5.30 Recruits are drawn from the Christian minority in the south and from those living in the north as well as from the Arab majority population in the north. **[9a]** The Christians who are recruited are often humiliated on account of their being Christians

and are also put under pressure to convert to Islam as well as having to fight against their own people in the civil war. [9a] Not all conscripts are sent to the front. [9a]

5.31 A person's ability to avoid military service depends reportedly on his and his family's connections to the current regime and on the social and economic position of his family in Sudan. [9b] Those persons who have good connections to the regime have a much better chance of ensuring that they are not posted to the less attractive parts of the war zones. [9b] Those persons without such connections are at great risk of being posted to the war zones. [9b] Thus, sons of government ministers, sons of prominent or wealthy families or the sons of families with other close connections to the Government would generally all be able to avoid military service. [9b] Connections with the Government do not necessarily have to be of a political nature. [9b] There also exists the possibility for a person to bribe one's way out of performing military service as government employees in general are very badly paid and could therefore be open to offers of bribery. [9b]

5.32 The forcible conscription of children does occur in Sudan, by both the Government and insurgent forces such as the SPLM/A. [3a] (p 22) The Civilian Protection Monitoring Team (CPMT) found that government-supported militiamen were abducting civilian boys for the purposes of conscription into the South Sudan Unity Movement (SSUM). [60b] Male teenagers, and some girls in the South, living in Government run camps for vagrant children have been forced to join the People's Defence Force. [3a] (p 22)

Exemptions, Pardons and Postponements

5.33 The following categories of people are exempt from National Service:

- Soldiers of the armed forces, police officers, officers of the Public Order Police and officers of the other security forces;
- Students of colleges and institutes preparing for graduation as armed forces officers, police forces or other regular forces, on condition that the student shall continue in his study until graduation. Otherwise he should report within 30 days of cancellation of his study programme to the specified recruitment region authority. [9b]

5.34 The following categories of people can have their National Service call-up postponed:

- The sole supporter of a family - the father, the husband, the son or the brother - until public funds are provided for him to provide for his family
- Academics doing their scholarship until they receive their first degree on condition that they are under 32 years of age. [9b]

National Service may be postponed for a reasonable time for the following persons provided they are less than 32 years of age:

- Those holding final degrees, should the nature of their certificates require continuation of study or training
- Those working in any public service unit whose nature of work in that unit requires him to continue working in that unit for a period as requested by the relevant minister. [9b]

5.35 Those people who are exempt or pardoned from National Service or have had their National Service postponed must obtain a certificate of exemption, pardon or postponement. [9b] People who are medically unfit are not officially exempt from National Service but are completely pardoned, which effectively has the same status as being exempt from National Service. [9b]

5.36 The Director of the National Service Administration (NSA) has the authority to make decisions on applications for partial, temporary or full exemption of National Service. [9b] The Minister of Defence has the authority to make decision on applications for postponement of National Service. [9b] Sudanese ambassadors abroad have the authority to make temporary decisions on applications for postponement of service for those residents abroad but they have to contact the NSA in Sudan for a final decision. [9b]

Internal Security

5.37 According to the USSD Report for 2003 "In addition to the regular police and the Sudan People's Armed Forces, the Government maintained an external security force, an internal security force, a militia known as the Popular Defense Forces (PDF), and a number of police forces." [3a] (p 1) [9a] The latter included the Public Order Police, whose duties included the enforcing of proper social behaviour in line with Islamic principles. [3a] (p 6) The security forces were reportedly under the effective control of the Government. [3a] (p 1)

See Section 5: Military Service and the Popular Defence Force

5.38 The ICRC Annual Report for 2002 stated that "The director of the Law Department of the Sudanese Police Academy provisionally agreed to introduce IHL and human rights into the curriculum in the next academic year." [58d] (p 106)

See Section 6: Human Rights for details on the effectiveness of the IHL training

Legal Rights/Detention

5.39 According to the USSD Report for 2003 "The law prohibits arbitrary arrest and detention without charge; however, in practice the Government continued to use arbitrary arrest and detention under the state of emergency provisions." [3a] (p 6) Under the constitution and the Criminal Code, a person can be detained for three days without charge, which can be extended for thirty days by order of the Director of Security and by a further thirty days by the Director of Security with the

endorsement of the prosecuting attorney. **[3a] (p 6)**

5.40 Under the amended National Security Act, which supercedes the Criminal Code when an individual is accused of violating national security, that individual may be detained for three months without charge, and the detention is renewable by the Director of Security for another three months. **[3a] (p 6)**

5.41 Under the current State of Emergency, the Government is not restricted by the National Security Act, can and reportedly does, detain individuals indefinitely without judicial review. **[3a] (p 6)** The security forces often held persons incommunicado for lengthy periods of time in unknown locations, without access to their lawyers or family members. **[3a] (p 6)** The law provides for bail except for those accused of crimes which are punishable by death or life imprisonment, and the bail system was functioning during 2003. **[3a] (p 6)**

5.42 In accordance with Shari'a law, the Criminal Act provides for physical punishments including flogging, amputation, stoning and crucifixion. **[3a] (p 4)** The Government officially exempted the ten southern states from parts of the law that permits physical punishments based on Shari'a law. **[3a] (p 4)** According to the USSD Report for 2003, "There were no reports in 2003 of court-ordered Shari'a punishments, other than lashings, in government-controlled areas of the south." **[3a] (p 4)** However, Shari'a can legally be applied in the south, if the state assemblies approve it. **[3a] (p 4)** According to the 1991 Criminal Act, there are nine offences in total, for which the accused may be sentenced to death:

- Article 50: Attack on the power of the state and undermining the constitution
- Article 51: Making war on the state
- Article 53: Spying against the country
- Article 126: Apostasy (converting from Islam to another religion)
- Article 130: Murder
- Article 146: Adultery
- Article 148g: Homosexuality
- Article 168: Armed robbery
- Article 177: Embezzlement. **[9b]**

5.43 The Inter-Paliamentary Union (IPU) website stated that Sudan had in place a parliamentary body dealing with human rights, the Human Rights Committee. **[57b] (p 1)** The Committee is reportedly responsible for, among other areas, examining individual complaints with regard to the condition of custody. **[57b] (p 1)** However, the IPU made no comment on the independence or effectiveness of the Committee. **[57b]**

See Section 6: <u>Human Rights</u> for details on the treatment of specific groups and the restriction of fundamental freedoms in relation to the implementation of Sudanese Law

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Prisons and Prison Conditions

5.44 Conditions in the Government's overcrowded prisons remained harsh and life threatening. **[3a] (p 2, 6)** Most were old and badly maintained and many lacked basic facilities such as toilets or showers. **[3a] (p 6)** Health care and food in prisons was reportedly primitve and inadequate. **[3a] (p 6)** Prison officials arbitrarily denied family visits to prisoners but prominent political prisoners reportedly enjoy better conditions than do other prisoners. **[3a] (p 6)**

5.45 Female prisoners are housed separately from men and rape in prison was reportedly a rare occurrence. **[3a] (p 6)**The Special Rapporteur's (SR) Report of January 2003 stated that children were reportedly often detained with adults and were allegedly subjected to inhumane treatment. **[2] (p 13)** Additionally, in order to care for their children, many women prisoners are forced to take their children with them to prison where children were unable to receive an education. **[3a] (p 6)** In 2003, the Government did not permit regular visits to prisons by human rights observers and no independent domestic human rights organisations monitor prison conditions. **[3a] (p 6)**

5.46 The Inter-Paliamentary Union (IPU) website stated that Sudan had in place a parliamentary body dealing with human rights, the Human Rights Committee. **[57b] (p 1)** The Committee is reportedly responsible for, among other areas, examining individual complaints with regard to the condition of prisons, the supervision of compliance with relevant national and international standards and the inspection of Kober Prison. **[57b] (p 1)** However, the IPU made no comment on the independence or effectiveness of the Committee. **[57b]**

5.47 The International Committee of the Red Cross' (ICRC) Annual Report for 2002 stated that "The ICRC carried out 37 visits to 25 places of detention to monitor the treatment and living conditions of 753 detainees held by the SPLA and other opposition factions in connection with the internal conflict [during 2002]." **[58d] (p 105)** The Report also stated that the organisation had been granted access to detainees held by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) for the first time in 2002. **[58d] (p 105)**

Medical Services

5.48 The overall health status of the Sudanese people is low. **[29a]** Due to the ongoing conflict in the country, natural disasters like drought and flood and the consequent large-scale population displacement, a significant proportion of the population, especially children and women, continue to be affected by food insecurity. **[29a]** There is also inadequate access to safe drinking water and worsening environmental and hygienic conditions. **[29a]**

5.49 Poor access to health care services, along with malaria, diarrhoeal disease and acute respiratory infections, inadequate pre-natal; delivery and post-natal care have compounded the health situation of a large proportion of the country. **[29a]** Sudan continues to suffer outbreaks such as meningitis, measles and watery diarrhoea. **[29a]** Acute gastro-enteritis is a common occurrence, particularly after floods and other natural disasters. **[29a]** In July 2003, an NGO survey of rebel-controlled Abyei County revealed that there are no health services available to a population of about 32,000.

[15f] Those in need have to walk for between two and three days to obtain medical care. [15f]

5.50 Malaria, diarrhoeal disease and acute respiratory infections account for 70% of all hospital admissions. [29a] The estimated annual number of malaria cases in the government-controlled areas is 7.5 million and around 35,000 malaria-related deaths occur annually. [29a] In the SPLM/A-controlled areas, malaria affects 24-36% of the population. [29a]

5.51 The national prevalence rate of malnutrition in Sudan rose from 18% in 1995 to 23% in 1999. [29a] The situation is more serious in southern Sudan, where the level is 28%, of which about 15% are severely malnourished. [29a] Nutritional status among infants is poor due to low adherence to exclusive breastfeeding and early introduction of supplementary feeding and inappropriate complementary feeding. [29a] The Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative, designed to address these issues, is only implemented in a few hospitals and maternity facilities in the main cities. [29a]

5.52 Inadequate access to safe drinking water and sanitation as well as poor hygiene practices, such as open defecation, are major causes of several diseases. [29a] Epidemics of water-related diseases such as diarrhoea are widespread. The ongoing conflict and natural disasters like droughts and floods, resulting in large-scale internal displacement of people, economic difficulties as well as rapid population growth and institutional problems, have seriously affected public water and sanitation facilities. [29a]

5.53 Women give birth frequently with little access to reproductive health services. [29a] A skilled birth attendant does not assist more than 40% of deliveries in government-controlled areas and over 60% in SPLM/A-controlled areas. [29a] The maternal mortality rate stands at 509 per 100,000 live births in areas under government control. [29a] Obstetric complications, stemming from lack of proper care during pregnancy, influence death or long-term morbidity in women. [29a]

5.54 The International Committee of the Red Cross' (ICRC) Annual Report for 2002 stated that "From 1 November [2002], when humanitarian agencies were granted free movement in Sudan, the ICRC began surveying medical facilities in southern Sudan to assess their ability to treat war-wounded people." [58d] (p 52) ICRC's 2002 Report also stated that, during 2002, the ICRC provided medical supplies, staff training and supervision and building materials for thirteen primary health care facilities in southern Sudan. [58d] (p 104) In 2002, 9,500 patients were treated at ICRC-supported hospitals and 1,000 amputees were fitted with prostheses with ICRC aid. [58d] (p 104)

5.55 BBC News reported in February 2004 that a Leicester-based charity, Afrimed, intended to aid Sudan in setting up its first blood bank by donating blood refrigeration units, as well as other equipment which, while deemed too old for use in the United Kingdom, would be new to Sudan. [14k]

HIV/AIDS

5.56 According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) and an IRIN news special on HIV/AIDS in southern Sudan, the virus is on the rise in Sudan but has not yet made a strong appearance in Sudan, in comparison to its neighbours. [15I] (p) [29a] The Sudan National Aids Programme estimates that nationally between one and three percent of the population is HIV positive, with marked regional variations. [29a] Continuing large-scale internal displacement, the movement of soldiers around the country and war-induced destitution are also important factors in the spread of HIV/AIDS. [29a]

5.57 The number of reported AIDS cases has been steadily increasing although it is reportedly difficult to compile reliable statistics owing to the difficulties in obtaining accurate data. [15I] (p 1 - 2) [29d] (p 1) It is believed that HIV/AIDS has not been able to spread so readily because the civil war has restricted labour migration, trade and travel, but once the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) begin returning home and travel becomes less restricted, it is predicted that the virus will rapidly spread. [15I] (p 1) Extenuating factors, such as poverty, lack of education, a poor health system and the dependent status of women are also likely to aid its spread. [15I] (p 1)

5.58 There exists a distinct lack of public awareness of the disease, and cultural practices such as FGM, polygamy and widow inheritance will only exacerbate the danger to the 'uneducated' southern Sudanese, according to an October 2003 IRIN web special on HIV/AIDS in southern Sudan. [15I] (p 1) At present most if not all southern Sudanese would have to go to a neighbouring country in order to be tested for HIV, and condoms, which are not easily obtainable, are too expensive for the majority of the occupants of the southern states. [15I] (p 2 - 3) However, a Dutch NGO is currently training counsellors in preparation for a voluntary testing and counselling programme and a German NGO in the Nuba Mountains hands out free condoms, if asked for them. [15I] (p 3)

5.59 Anti-retroviral treatment is not available in southern Sudan and is unlikely to be for some time. [15I] (p 3) Applications for HIV/AIDS activity funding have twice been turned down by the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. [15I] (p 3) The World Health Organisation (WHO) in 2001 had implemented national training activities in 10 states that included nursing care for AIDS patients. [29d] (p 1)

5.60 The Government has shown its awareness to the problem that HIV/AIDS presents and has made credible attempts to initiate awareness campaigns aimed at preventing the spread of the disease. [47] In 2003, the HIV/AIDS issue continued to be on Dr Bilal, the Minister of Health's, agenda, with reaffirmations being made of the Government's commitment to combat AIDS in Sudan. [49b] Dr Bilal also called for UN organisations to cooperate with the Government in implementing programmes to combat the disease. [49b]

Mental Health Care

5.61 The Mental Health Care System in Sudan is still relatively young with major

initiatives implemented in the mid- to late-1990s. [29b] According to the WHO in 2001 "Now the mental health services and facilities are very limited and cover very small areas in Sudan mostly in some big cities ma[i]nly Khartoum State at the secondary and tertiary levels." [29c] (p 1) There is a shortage of personnel, especially qualified Psychiatrists. [29c] (p 1) Consequently, access to mental health care in the primary health care system is not available and very few therapeutic drugs are obtainable at this level. [29b] There are few psychiatric beds or professionals in relation to the population, 0.2 per 10,000 population according to the WHO Mental Health Project Atlas Country Profile 2002. [29b]

5.62 However, Sudan does have special programmes designed to address the mental needs of refugees and children, both of which are supported by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). [29b] Migrants, the elderly, and displaced or homeless children have also been given special attention. [29b]

The Education System

5.63 The primary language of instruction in the country's primary schools, secondary schools and universities in both the north and south, is Arabic. [1] The Government provides free primary education from the ages of 7 to 12 years. [20] Intermediate education starts at the age of 13 and lasts three years. Students completing secondary education are eligible for university. [20] Secondary education begins at 16 years of age and lasts up to three years. [20] The south remains the most educationally deprived region of the country, with less than one-seventh of the total number of primary schools, despite having one-fourth to one-third of the country's total population. [1]

See Section 6.B: Children

5.64 Sudan has approximately 18 universities; at least six of which are located in the Khartoum area. [53] These are the University of Khartoum, Sudan University of Science and Technology, Al-Neelain University and Sinnar University, the International University of Africa and the University of Juba. [53] The latter is only temporarily located in Khartoum. [53] The University of Khartoum is the most prestigious institution of higher education in Sudan. [6] Omdurman also has four universities, Omdurman Islamic University, the Holy Quran University, Al Zaiem Al Azhari University and Afhad University for Women, which is privately run. [53] National universities that emphasise scientific and technical training were opened in the 1970s at Wad Madani in the Gezira and at Juba in the southern region. [6]

Sudanese Nationality Laws

5.65 The conditions and qualifications for the granting of Sudanese nationality in Sudan is governed and regulated by the provisions of the Sudanese Nationality Act, 1993. [25c] Any person born before the law was enacted is regarded as Sudanese if:

- He has acquired and maintained the status of a Sudanese national by descent
- Either he or his father was born in Sudan
- He, at the coming into force of the said Act, is domiciled, since 1 January 1956 or else whose ancestors in the direct male line since that date have all been domiciled in Sudan
- A person who was not born in Sudan and whose father was not born in Sudan, may apply to the Ministry of Interior for an order that he deemed to be Sudanese by descent
- A person born after the enactment of the Act shall be deemed to be Sudanese by descent if his father is Sudanese by descent at the time of birth. [25c]

A person born to parents who are Sudanese by naturalisation shall be deemed to be Sudanese by descent if his parents have obtained Sudanese nationality by naturalisation before his birth. [25c]

5.66 The Minister of Interior may grant a certificate of naturalisation as a Sudanese to an alien who is defined in the law as a person who is not Sudanese on condition that he:

- Is of full age and capacity
- He has been domiciled in Sudan for a period of five years or more
- He is of good character and has not been convicted of a criminal offence involving moral turpitude. [25c]

5.67 The applicant has to take the oath of allegiance in the form set out in a schedule attached to the law. Consequently, he will have the status of being Sudanese by naturalisation from the date of issue of the certificate. [25c] The Minister also has the authority to grant a certificate of naturalisation to an alien woman if she can prove that:

- She is a wife of a Sudanese man in accordance with the law
- She has resided with her husband in Sudan for a continuous period of not less than two years from the date of such an application. [25c]

5.68 Refugees are not allowed to apply for a certificate of naturalisation as this will conflict with the laws and the international agreements regulating the existence of refugees in Sudan. [25c] Any resident in Sudan regardless of his religion, beliefs or ethnic origin may still have the right to enjoy naturalisation unless otherwise he has been deprived from such rights by the president of the republic where:

- He has obtained his certificate of naturalisation by fraud, false representation or the concealment of any material fact
- Has, during any war in which Sudan is or has been engaged, unlawfully traded, assisted or communicated with the enemy
- Has been convicted or engaged in espionage against Sudan if out of Sudan, has shown himself by act or speech to be disloyal or

disaffected towards Sudan, or he has been convicted of such an offence in Sudan
- Has within five years after the date of his naturalisation, been sentenced in any country to imprisonment for a term not less than one year, for an offence involving moral turpitude. **[25c]**

6. HUMAN RIGHTS

6.A. HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

Overview

6.1 The USSD Report on Human Rights Practices for 2003, which was published in March 2004, stated that "The Government's human rights record remained extremely poor, and although there were improvements in some areas, numerous, serious abuses remained." **[3a] (p 2)** Amnesty International (AI) claimed in its July 2003 report 'Sudan: Empty Promises?'

> "Yet, with the important advances in human rights promotion in northern Sudan and internationally sponsored agreements on the issue of protection of civilians in most of the south it is still true to say that 'virtually every kind of human rights violation of concern to Amnesty International has been perpetrated by a political and security establishment that behaves as if it is unaccountable'", as stated in AI's 1995 Annual Report on Sudan. **[11j] (p 2)**

6.2 In a February 2003 briefing to the UN Commission on Human Rights, Human Rights Watch (HRW) called on the Commission to renew the Special Rapporteur's mandate. **[10c] (p 1)** The human rights situation in 2002 and 2003 remained poor in most areas, including the abuse of individuals and groups, and the severe restriction of the fundamental freedoms of the people of Sudan as reported in detail by human rights groups such as AI and SHRO. **[11b] [11j] [61]** Yet the UN Commission voted to reject the resolution on the situation in Sudan, resulting in the end of UN human rights monitoring in Sudan. **[10c] [10d] (p 1) [11d] (p 2)**

6.3 According to the USSD Report for 2003 the "Security forces and associated militias were responsible for extra-judicial killings and disappearances." **[3a] (p 2)** "Security forces regularly beat, harassed, arbitrarily arrested, and detained incommunicado opponents or suspected opponents of the Government". **[3a] (p 2)** The Special Rapporteur (SR) stated in January 2003 that "Overall, the role of the security apparatus as the main entity responsible for the human rights abuses as well as the impunity enjoyed by security officers remains an issue of serious concern." **[2] (p 8)**

6.4 Various human rights groups reported on specific cases concerning the violation of the human rights of organisations, groups and individuals' throughout 2003 and into 2004. **[11j - 11k] [10f] [10k] [42b] (p 22 - 23) [32a] [33a - 33b] [33e - 33g] [60c] [60f] (p 2) [61]** The USSD Report stated that there were no reports of the Government taking any action

against any members of the security forces who have reportedly killed, tortured, beat, raped or otherwise abused persons in 2001 and 2002. [3a] (p 3, 4, 5)

6.5 The USSD Report on for 2003 stated that "The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), under Kenyan leadership, continued to work towards an end to the country's civil war." [3a] (p 1) "In October 2002, the parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that called for a cessation of hostilities and unimpeded humanitarian access to all areas of the country, and which both parties have largely respected; however at year's end [2003] access to the Darfur region was restricted due to the conflict." [3a] (p 1)

6.6 Amnesty International's 2003 Report, which covered the period January 2002 to December 2002, stated that war-related human rights abuses were committed with impunity and on a large scale by all parties to the conflict, including killings, rapes and abductions, until a ceasefire was signed in October 2002. [11b] (p 1) In its 2002 Annual Report, the ICRC reported that "Significant progress was made in implementing IHL [International Humanitarian Law] at national level" including the introduction of IHL into the Sudanese Army's standard training and the incorporation of a forty-four hour course into the SPLA main training facility's standard curricula. [58d] (p 105, 105 - 6, p 106)

6.7 However, the USSD Report for 2003 indicated that, despite the ceasefire "The Government still did not fully apply the laws of war to the southern insurgency, has taken few prisoners of war (POWs), and did not cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) regarding access to or treatment of POWs." [3a] (p 2) The USSD report goes on to state that rebel insurgent groups and associated militia forces continued to commit many, serious abuses and that there were reports of SPLM/A abuse of citizens' rights in 2003. [3a] (p 2) "During the year [2003], the SPLM/A was [reportedly] responsible for killings, beatings, rape, arbitrary detention and forced military conscription of underage young men." [3a] (p 2)

6.8 The USSD Report on Human Rights Practices for 2003 reported that access to the Darfur region was restricted due to the conflict and that Government and government-supported militia committed serious abuses in responses to rebel attacks, including razing numerous villages. [3a] (p 1, 2) AI's February 2004 Report 'Darfur: "Too many people killed for no reason" outlined the background to the conflict in Darfur and detailed the numerous reports of human rights abuses that continued to occur in Darfur. [11k] Reportedly, as many as 3,000 civilians were killed, over 600,000 internally displaced, and approximately 100,000 refugees fled over the border to Chad. [3a] (p 2)

6.9 "The Civilian Protection Monitoring Team (CPMT), created by agreement between the two parties [the Government and the SPLM/A] subsequent to the Machakos Protocol, and the Joint Military Commission operating in the Nuba Mountains, had some success in monitoring and curbing serious abuses during the year [2003]." [3a] (p 2) The CPMT is responsible for investigating allegations of attacks and human rights abuses against civilians in connection with the conflict in the south and the Cessation of Hostilities signed by the Government and the SPLM/A. [60a] (p 1)

The CPMT investigated numerous allegations in late 2003 and early 2004, not all of which were found to be substantiated. [60a - 60m]

6.10 The Sudan Human Rights Organisation (SHRO) reported that "The Nuba Mountains' ceasefire agreement was consistently applied [during 2003]." [61] (p 3) The SHRO's report on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' contained details of specifc cases of human rights abuses, including government bombings that were either indiscriminate or specifically targeted at civilian targets during 2003. [61] (p 22 - 23)

6.11 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "During the year, there was a decrease in the number of political and other killings reportedly committed by rebel forces in areas of active conflict, such as the Nuba Mountains and northern Bahr el-Ghazal during the year; however, details generally were unavailable." [3a] (p 3)

6.12 Unlike in 2002, there were no reports that SPLM/A forces and allied militias summarily executed persons in the southern Sudan; however, the Sudanese Liberation Army (SLA) and Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) were reportedly responsible for killings in Darfur. [3a] (p 3) The Special Rapporteur reported the main problems in southern Sudan were the severe restrictions of a number of freedoms, such as freedom of speech, assembly and association. [2] (p 14)

Freedom of Speech and the Media

6.13 Article twenty-five of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

> "Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression, to receive information, to publish and there shall be freedom of the press, subject to restrictions necessary to security, public order, public safety, public morals and in accordance with law." [4] (p 4)

6.14 According to a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 'Background Paper on Refugees and Asylum Seekers from the Sudan' published in July 2000, "The 1999 Press Act details the jurisdiction of the National Press Council (NPC), which can grant licences to the press, register journalists and issue sanctions and penalties." [7] (p 18) The Special Rapporteur (SR) stated in January 2003 that press censorship and the imposition of restrictive measures continued. [2] (p 8) Freedom House's 'Freedom of the Press 2003 Global Survey of Media Independence' concurred stating that, "The quasi-official National Press Council is responsible for applying the [1999] press law and has the power to license and suspend newspapers." [54a] (p 139 - 140)

6.15 A June 2003 report published by International Media Support (IMS) entitled 'Media and peace in Sudan - options for immediate action' stated that "The government maintains tight control of the media in the North, including the only broadcaster capable of reaching large sections of the population." [55] (p 4) The report claimed that the most potent restriction on freedom of expression was "The National Security Act [which] gives arbitrary powers to the security services." [55] (p 20) Examples cited in the report include the seizure and detention of persons "without

judicial oversight", the seizure of press runs and the closure of newspapers; all committed with immunity guaranteed by the Act. [55] (p 20) In an IRIN report in July 2003, "Sudan's deputy ambassador to Kenya, Muhammad Ahmad Dirdeiry, dismissed the report, saying his country enjoyed greater media freedom compared to many countries in Africa and the Middle East." [15g]

6.16 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "Journalists practiced self-censorship, and the Government confiscated entire issues of newspapers if it objected to an article." [3a] (p 12) Freedom House (FH), in its 2003 report on Freedom of the Press, stated that Sudan's press was "Not Free". [54a] (p 139) The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' also provided details on specific cases involving the restriction of freedom of expression and the media during 2003. [61] (p 4 -5, 7 - 11, 13)

6.17 The Special Rapporteur stated in January 2003 that there were severe restrictions of freedom of speech, opinion and expression and that no newspaper existed in southern Sudan. [2] (p 14) According to IMS's June 2003 report, "Mass media structures in southern Sudan are only emerging and it is unclear to what degree independent media will be able to operate under a new political dispensation." [55] (p 4) The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "The SPLM/A and the NDA provided few opportunities for journalists to report on their activities. The SPLM/A restricted the freedom of speech among populations under its control." [3a] (p 14)

See Section 6.C: Journalists

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Newspapers

6.18 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "There were a large number of independent daily newspapers, mainly in urban areas and differing political views are publicly reflected to some extent. Several newspapers also reprinted articles from the international press, some of which are critical of government policies." [3a] (p 12 - 13) There were two government-controlled newspapers, one in Arabic and one daily in English, called the Sudan Vision, the latter of which was launched by the Government in July 2003. [3a] (p 13)

6.19 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "A number of independent publications were under intensive scrutiny during the year [2003] and experienced intimidation, interruption, and the arrest of their editors." [3a] (p 13) "During the year [2003], the National Security Offices imposed restrictions on press freedom by suspending publications, confiscating already printed editions, conducting pre-publication censorship and restricting government advertising to pro-government media only." [3a] (p 13)

6.20 According to AI and IMS, newspapers are subject to 'red lines' in terms of what they can and cannot report. [11e] (p 1 - 2) [55] (p 20) The IMS claimed that

"On the basis of actions taken by the security service, the list of

issues that cannot be reported upon includes: the conflicts in the south, in the contested areas, in Darfur and elsewhere; any criticism of the GoS' approach to the peace talks; human rights violations including the dentention of government critics and journalist; protest demonstrations and the reasons that provoked them; criticism of government policies, allegations of corruption, and a number of religious social and health issues." [55] (p 20)

6.21 International news articles reported that, in a Presidential decree on 12 August 2003, President al-Bashir had announced the lifting of press censorship in Sudan, a move welcomed by the SPLM, AI and the chairman of the Sudanese journalists' general union. [12d] (p 1) [26b] (p 1) [26a]

Television, Radio and the Internet

6.22 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "The Government directly controlled radio and television and required that they reflect government policies." [3a] (p 13) "There were no privately owned television or radio stations, although the Government and private investors jointly owned one television cable company." [3a] (p 13) There were restrictions on the ownership of satellite dishes but access to foreign electronic media was available and, according to the BBC's Country Profile on Sudan, "Satellite dishes are becoming common in affluent areas and pan-Arab TV stations are popular among viewers." [3a] (p 13) [14d] (p 2)

6.23 According to the USSD Report for 2003 and the British Broadcasting Company's (BBC) Country Profile on Sudan, "Sudan TV has a permanent military censor to ensure that the news reflects official views." [3a] (p 13) [14d] (p 2) The government-operated Sudan National Radio Corporation provided a mixture of news, music and cultural programmes. Opposition and clandestine radio stations broadcast to Sudan such as the NDA-operated 'Voice of Sudan' and 'Voice of Democracy and Peace'. [14d] (p 2)

6.24 The USSD Report remarked that "Internet access, which was potentially monitored, was available through two Internet service providers." [3a] (p 13) The BBC Country Profile stated that "Internet services were introduced in 1997. There were [reportedly] some 56,000 internet users by the end of 2001." [14d] (p 2)

See Section 6.C: Journalists

Freedom of Religion

6.25 Article twenty-four of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of conscience and religion and has the right to manifest and disseminate his religion or belief in

teaching, practice or observance. No one shall be coerced to profess a faith in which he does not believe or perform ritual or worship that he does not voluntarily accept. This right shall be exercised in a manner that does not harm public order or the feelings of other, and in accordance with law." [4] (p 4)

6.26 The USSD Religious Freedom Report (USSD RF) for 2003 reported that the Government severely restricted the right to freedom of religion and that Muslims have dominated national government institutions since the country became independent. [3b] (p 1)

6.27 An IRIN news article, dated 14 November 2001, reported that the UN Special Rapporteur (SR), Gerhart Baum, had reported to the UN General Assembly the previous week. [15p] It was reported by the IRIN that "On freedom of religion, Baum said it was untrue - as some Christian fundamentalists argued - that there was a war of religious persecution in Sudan." [15p] (p 4) "There was concern over restrictions on freedom of religion, discrimination and the increasing religious [Islamic] characterisation of education and public life, but there was no systematic suppression of Christian churches, he said." [15p] (p 4)

6.28 In his January 2003 report, the SR reported that "While sources reported that it was difficult to cite specific cases of abuses in the past six months, discrimination against/harassment of Christians, e.g. denial of visas, permission to build new churches and equal participation in the educational system, have continued to be reported." [2] (p 9)

6.29 According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, "There were strained and distant relations between the various religious communities; however, there was a governmental attempt to promote dialog between Christians and Muslims through its support of the Sudan Inter-religious Council, a non-governmental organization (NGO) formed in December 2002." [3b] (p 1) The USSD Report on Human Rights Practices for 2003 stated that discrimination and violence against religious minorities persisted and "The Government continued the Islamization and Arabization of the country and, there were credible allegations of forced Islamization of non-Muslims." [3a] (p 2)

6.30 The USSD RF Report for 2003 reported that the rights of religious minorities are not protected and as Islam is the 'state' religion non-Muslim adherents are regarded as having the status of second class citizens. [3b] (p 2) The Report continued by stating that "In government-controlled areas of the south, there continued to be credible evidence of favoritism towards Muslims and an unwritten policy of Islamization of public institutions, despite an official policy of local autonomy and federalism." [3b] (p 2)

6.31 According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, "Religious organizations and churches are subject to the same restrictions placed on nonreligious corporations." [3b] (p 2) Registration is reportedly very difficult to obtain and not all groups are treated equally, particularly evangelical Christian groups. [3b] (p 2) "Nonregistered religious

groups find it impossible to construct a place of worship or to assemble legally without fear of interference." **[3b] (p 2)**

6.32 The USSD RF Report for 2003 also reported that "Muslims may proselytize freely in government-controlled areas, but non-Muslims are hindered in their efforts to proselytize." **[3b] (p 2)** "While non-Muslims may convert to Islam, the law makes apostasy (conversion from Islam to another religion) punishable by death." **[3b] (p 2)** During 2003, missionaries continued to work in the south and some also in government-controlled areas but a number of missionaries and other religiously oriented organisations experienced harassment by the authorities. **[3b] (p 2)** According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, almost all Christian religious workers, who have to apply for residence permits and visas, including first-time entry visas, are referred to the security services for a decision and many are vetoed. **[3b] (p 2)**

6.33 According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, persons were reportedly detained; harassed, threatened and had violent acts committed against them by the security forces because of their religious beliefs and activities. **[3b] (p 4)** However, reports of harassment on religious grounds of this nature were less frequent than in previous periods covered by the USSD RF Report. **[3b] (p 4)** The Report stated that, "Generally, detentions based nominally on religion were of limited duration; because the practice of religion is not technically illegal, detainees could not be held formally on religious grounds indefinitely." **[3b] (p 4)**

6.34 Agence France Presse (AFP) reported, in June 2003, that President al-Bashir had rejected the May 2003 'Cairo Declaration', which advocated the establishment of Khartoum as the national, secular capital. AFP reported in July 2003 that the authorities had arrested five activists who had drafted the 'Khartoum Declaration', which followed the text of the former. **[13c] [13d] (p 1)** He reportedly claimed that "A memorandum signed by the opposition Popular Congress and a declaration signed by Umma Party's Sadeq al-Mahdi and Democratic Unionist's Mohammed Osman al-Mirghani with the south Sudanese rebel movement and its leader, John Garang, were attempts at "foiling the peace process and cancelling Islamic Sharia."" **[13c]** "The 'Khartoum Declaration' was [reportedly] signed by 18 opposition parties, 15 non-government organizations and more than 40 individual opposition leaders." **[13d] (p 1)**

6.35 Associated Press (AP) reported in June 2003, that a newspaper had announced that a reward of 10 million Sudanese pounds (approximately US$4,000) would be paid for the killing of Sudanese accused of being pro-Western or insufficiently Muslim and that "The newspaper announcement specified that the killers must be Muslim." **[43b]** According to the report, the authorities made several arrests in connection with the article. **[43b]** AP reported in July 2003, that leading Islamic scholars issued a Fatwah declaring communists, socialists and those advocating non-Shari'a law in Sudan were apostates who deserved to be killed. **[43c]** Unlike the incident in June 2003, the Government did not appear to take any official action against the scholars' who made the declaration, despite the urgings of 454 intellectuals to act against those who issued the Fatwah. **[43d]**

6.36 The USSD RF Report for 2003 reported that, "The Government officially exempts the 10 southern states, in which the population is mostly non-Muslim, from Hudood law--that part of Shari'a which permits physical punishments, including lashings, amputations, and stonings." [3b] (p 4) The Government has reportedly carried out many lashings but no amputations in the past few years. [3b] (p 4) The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' provided details on specific cases involving the implementation of Shari'a in 2003. [61] (p 18)

6.37 According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, "In rebel-controlled areas, Christians, Muslims and followers of traditional indigenous beliefs generally worship freely; however, in recent years southern soldiers have damaged a few mosques after taking over government garrison towns." [3b] (p 3 - 4) Although the SPLM/A, which is dominated by Christians and whose local authorities often have a marked relationship with local Christian religious authorities would prefer a secular government, it is willing to allow Shari'a law to exist in the north. [3b] (p 4) "There is [reportedly] no evidence that this close relationship has resulted in a failure to respect the rights of practitioners of other religions" by the SPLM/A. [3b] (p 4)

Forced Religious Conversion

6.38 According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, indoctrination in the Muslim faith occurred among Popular Defense Forces trainees and those performing their compulsory national service. [3b] (p 5) The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Some persons in the government-controlled camps for IDPs reportedly at times were pressured to convert to Islam." and that "There were credible reports that some children from Christian and other non-Muslim families, captured and sold into slavery, were forcibly converted to Islam." [3a] (p 16)

6.39 However, the USSD RF Report for 2003 claimed that "There were no reports during the period covered by this report of the forced abduction of women and children and the taking of slaves, particularly in war zones, and their transport to central and northern parts of the country." [3b] (p 4 - 5) The USSD RF Report remarked that "There were unconfirmed reports that in prisons and juvenile detention facilities, government officials and government-supported Islamic NGOs pressured and offered inducements to non-Muslim inmates to convert." [3b] (p 5) Children in camps for homeless minors were reportedly required to study the Koran and pressured to convert to Islam, whilst "Priests are specifically barred from camps for vagrant minors." [3b] (p 5)

Freedom of Assembly and Association

6.40 Article twenty-six of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

"2.   All citizens have the right to organize political succession. This

right may only be limited by the conditions of shura, democracy in the leadership of the organization and the duty to campaign non-violently for their organization without using material wealth and bound by the provisions of the constitution and in accordance with law." [4] (p 4)

6.41 According to the UNHCR's July 2000 'Background Paper on Refugees and Asylum Seekers from The Sudan', the 1999 Political Association Act, as revised by the 2000 Political Organisational Act, lifted the 1989 ban on political parties, which marked a significant change in government policy. [7] (p 17) The law allows political parties to be officially recognised provided they register with the Government, although their approval is at the discretion of the Government's registrar. [7] (p 17) The law imposes the restriction that all parties that are registered must adhere to the ruling party's ideology. [7] (p 17)

6.42 In his January 2003 Report on the 'Situation of human rights in the Sudan' the Special Rapporteur (SR) observed that the political environment did not allow for political parties to develop freely. [2] (p 6) The USSD Report for 2003 stated that the Government continued to severely restrict the freedoms of assembly association and that those who exercised these rights were arrested and harassed. [3a] (p 2, 14) The SR stated that political opposition parties and politically active students continued to be subjected to different forms of harassment, such as daily or periodical summonings and both physical and mental torture. [2] (p 6)

6.43 The SR reported in January 2003 that, as a result of the implementation of repressive measures to control or suppress independent political initiatives, there continued to be no effective political opposition in southern Sudan. [2] (p 14) The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' also provided details on specific cases involving the restriction of freedom of assembly and association during 2003. [61] (p 4 -5, 11 - 16)

6.44 "There were officially 20 officially registered political parties" according to the USSD Report for 2003 "however, the law includes restrictions that effectively prohibit traditional political parties if they were linked to armed opposition to the Government." [3a] (p 15) "The amended Political Parties Act allows some former banned political parties to resume their activities; however, the parties were still unable to participate unless the registrar was notified in writing". [3a] (p 15)

6.45 Panafrican News Agency (PANA) reported on positive developments in August 2003 when President al-Bashir ordered the release of 32 political prisoners. [12e] The report states "In the latest move towards political tolerance in Sudan, authorities in Khartoum plan to free all political prison[er]s (sic) "in the next few days", the government-owned newspaper al-Anbaa reported here." [12e] AI cautiously welcomed this move but insisted that the Sudanese authorities must go further and end the use of arbitrary detention and prolonged incommunicado detention. [11i] (p 1)

6.46 However, throughout late 2003 and early 2004 the arrest of political opponents, including party members of Darfurian origin, and of persons believed to support the rebel groups in Darfur reportedly continued. [11l - 11s] [61a] (p5, 11, 12, 14 - 15) In late March 2004, members of the armed forces and the PNC, including al-Turabi, were arrested

in connection with an alleged attempted coup. **[3a] (p 7, 8, 9) [11c] (p 1) [67a]** The Sudan Human Rights Organisation (SHRO) claimed that the arrests were politically motivated and stated its belief that the arrests of army personnel were aimed at removing citizens of Darfur African descent from the armed forces. **[61b] (p 1)**

Meetings and Demonstrations

6.47 President al-Bashir lifted the 2001 restrictions on rallies and demonstrations in September 2003. However, the National State of Emergency decree and the Criminal Procedure Act, which requires government sanction for gatherings involving more than five persons, actually circumscribed the right of assembly. **[3a] (p 14)** According to the USSD Report for 2003, "The authorities generally permitted only government-authorized gatherings and routinely denied permission or disrupted gatherings they view as politically oriented." **[3a] (p 14)**

6.48 "The Special Rapporteur was particularly concerned at information received regarding student riots taking place at the University of Khartoum during the last week of October [2002]" which were reportedly caused in the main by restrictions on the freedom of association and assembly. **[2] (p 7)** "According to information received," by the Special Rapporteur, "the students were attacked by anti-riot police" which left two students seriously injured by gunfire and/or beatings and about one hundred students detained. **[2] (p 7)**

6.49 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that the "Security forces used excessive force, including beatings, tear gas and firing of live ammunition to disperse unapproved demonstrations." Two March 2003 demonstrations against the war in Iraq were cited as examples. **[3a] (p 15)** The Al-Sahafah web site reported on 12 November 2003 that a student protest occurred, during which various buildings of the Ministry of Education were set alight, following a strike by teachers of a school in Al-Damazin, Blue Nile State. **[65f]** The Minister of Social Affairs accused unnamed parties of inciting the students and stated that the police, with the help of the armed forces, had managed to quell the protest. **[65f]** "No action was taken against security forces that forcibly dispersed demonstrations or meetings in 2002 or 2001." **[3a] (p 15)**

Employment Rights

6.50 Article twenty-six of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

> "1.   All citizens have the right to freedom of succession and organization for cultural, social, economic, professional or trade union purposes, without restriction except in accordance with law." **[4] (p 4)**

6.51 According to the USSD Report on Human Rights Practices for 2003 the Government restricted the rights of workers, as provided by the Consitution. **[3a] (p 23)** The Report stated that "Some NGOs reported that victims of government bombings

and of the civil war in general who fled to government-controlled peace camps were subjected to forced labor." **[3a] (p 24)**

6.52 The USSD Report for 2003 also claimed that "The SPLA/M and affiliated forces continued to force southern men to work as laborers or porters." **[3a] (p 24)**

Trade Unions

6.53 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "The Government prescribed severe punishments, including the death penalty, for violations of its labour decrees." **[3a] (p 23)** The Report continued, "Only the government-controlled Sudan Workers Trade Union Federation (SWTUF) can function legally, and all other unions were banned." **[3a] (p 23)** The 'Legitimate' Sudan Workers Trade Union Federation (SWLTUF), which continued to be recognised by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), was the national trade union center that had formerly functioned and operated in exile. **[3a] (p 23)**

6.54 According to a May 2003 Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) Report the Sudanese Women's Union (SWU) continued to operate clandestinely in Sudan, despite being banned in 1989 along with all the other Sudanese trade unions. **[31g] (p 1)** The May 2003 IRB Report stated that the SWU's President was Fatima Ahmed Ibrahim, a founding member of the Union, and that the SWU was a member of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). **[31g] (p 1)** However, in an article on the Akhbar al-Yawm website in October 2003, Ibrahim was referred to as the former leader of the SWU. **[72a]** She returned to Khartoum after an absence of over thirteen years, according to an unattributed report published on the Sudanese Media Centre web site on 17 December 2003. **[66d]**The SWU worked to promote the rights and interests of women and, the Secretary General of the SWU in Toronto told IRB that its members in Sudan have been subjected to forced dismissal, detention, harassment and beatings. **[31g] (p 1)**

6.55 The USSD report for 2003 stated that "The law does not prohibit anti-union discrimination by employers." **[3a] (p 23)** In 2003, two union leaders were reportedly detained, one was held for three weeks and the other for one week. **[3a] (p 23)** "Both" according to the USSD Report "were former leaders of the SWTUF and were active in the NDA." **[3a] (p 23)** The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' also provided details on specific cases involving the arrest and harassment of union leaders in 2003. **[61] (p 15)**

6.56 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "There were credible reports that the Government routinely intervened to manipulate professional, trade union, and student elections." **[3a] (p 23)** The ICFTU's 'Sudan: Annual Survey of Violations of Trade Union Rights (2003)' report claimed that the situation in Sudan is one of grave concern and that trade unionists, among others, have been harassed, initimidated, arbitrarily arrested, detained and tortured. According to the ICFTU, "Trade unionists live under constant fear." **[56] (p 2)**

6.57 The USSD Report reported that "The Labor Code, which strengthened government control over trade unions and continues to deny trade unions autonomy to exercise their basic right to organize or to bargain collectively. The code provides that unions should be democratic, national, and neutral, defend the welfare of their members, and should raise productivity. There was nothing in the code regarding organizational structure, strikes, or term limits." [3a] (p 23)

6.58 Also, "Strikes were banned and were considered illegal unless the labor office granted approval, which was [reportedly] never given." [3a] (p 24) Employees who tried to strike were in most cases, subject to employment termination, although there were a number of local strikes during 2003. [3a] (p 24)

Wages and Conditions

6.59 It was reported in the USSD Report for 2003 that "The legislated minimum wage was enforced by the Ministry of Labor, which maintained officers in most major cities" and that "Employers [reportedly] generally respected the minimum wage." [3a] (p 25) The minimum was raised to "[US]$28 (7,410 SD) per month during 2003 but this remained an inadequate amount to provide a decent standard of living for a worker and family and the raise was not applied to all workers' earnings. [3a] (p 25, 24)

6.60 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "A tripartite committee comprising representatives of the Government, the SWTUF, and business set wages." [3a] (p 23 - 24) "Specialized labor courts adjudicated standard labor disputes; however, the Ministry of Labor has the authority to refer a dispute to compulsory arbitration." [3a] (p 24)

6.61 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "The workweek was limited by law to an 8-hour day, with a day of rest on Friday, which generally was respected." [3a] (p 25) However, despite laws that prescribe health and safety standards, working conditions were poor and the enforcement of these laws by the Ministry of Labor was nominal. [3a] (p 25)

6.62 Foreign workers who had legal status benefitted from the same labor rights as domestic workers whereas illegal workers, who had no such protection, in general worked for lower wages in worse conditions. [3a] (p 25) The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Southern [internally displaced persons] IDPs generally occupied the lowest paying occupations and were subject to economic exploitation in rural and urban industries and activities. [3a] (p 25)

People Trafficking

6.63 Article twenty of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

"Everyone has the right to life and liberty and security of person in accordance with the law. Everyone shall be free and no one shall be

held in slavery or servitude or degraded or tortured." [4] (p 4)

6.64 Although slavery and forced labour are prohibited by the constitution, Sudanese law does not prohibit trafficking in persons specifically and according to the USSD Report for 2003 "Slavery and trafficking in persons remained significant problems" in 2003. [3a] (p 2) Slavery, forced labour, and trafficking in persons reportedly persisted in Sudan and these activities particularly affected women and children. [3a] (p 25)

6.65 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "There were unconfirmed reports of captured women and children during raids by the government-supported "janjaweed" in Darfur during the year [2003]." [3a] (p 24) In his January 2003 Report, the Special Rapporteur reported that he was informed that limited progress has been made in the field of abductions and that any new cases of abduction would be prosecuted. [2] (p 11) However, as of January 2003, not much had been done in terms of prosecuting abductors and the USSD Report for 2003 reported that "The Government took no action to hold those responsible for the abductions and continued to support tribal militias [in Darfur]." [2] (p11) [3a] (p 24)

6.66 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "Unlike in the previous year [2002], there were no reports that militia radiers, "murahileen," with the support of forces directly under the control of government authorities, systematically raided villages and captured women and children as remuneration for their services in Bahr el-Ghazal and Upper Nile." [3a] (p 24)

Slavery

6.67 According to the USSD Report for 2003, there were reports that the practice of forced or bonded labour continued and that "The enslavement of women and children, particularly in the war zones, and their transport to the central and northern parts of the country continued." [3a] (p 24)

6.68 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "The Government continued to deny that slavery and forced labor existed but acknowledged that abductions occurred." [3a] (p 24) Nevertheless, "There were reports of the sale of and purchase of children, some in alleged slave markets", of the abductees being forced to perform menial and physically demanding tasks and that they were subjected to arbitrary punishment, torture, rape, and sometimes killed. [3a] (p 24) The USSD Report for 2003 suggested that, as the victims were exclusively black southerners and members of indigenous tribes of the Nuba Mountains, there was a pronounced racial aspect to the practices of abduction, slavery and trafficking. [3a] (p 24)

6.69 According to AI's 2003 Annual Report, the Government created the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children (CEAWAC) during 1999 and that "CEAWAC stated [in 2002] it had succeeded in freeing 150 abducted persons." [11b] (p 2) The USSD Report for 2003 stated that, during 2002, CEAWAC formed 22 joint-tribal committees, conducted 2 field missions resulting in the documentation of more than 150 cases of abduction and reported that 300 abductees were returned during the year. [3a] (p 4) AI's 2002 and the USSD's 2003

Reports agreed that the Government had not publicly identified or prosecuted the abductors or forced labour owners in either year. **[11b] (p 2) [3a] (p 4)**

6.70 According to the USSD Report for 2003 "Libyans have been implicated in the purchase of Sudanese slaves, particularly women and children who were captured by government troops." **[3a] (p 25)** "There were also reports of Sudanese boys being trafficked to Qatar as camel jockeys, and to Saudi Arabia to work as domestic servants and menial laborers." **[3a] (p 25)**

6.71 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "During the past 15 years, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) kidnapped between 3,000 and 10,000 Ugandan children, took them to the southern part of the country [Sudan], and forced them to become sex slaves or soldiers." **[3a] (p 25)** In March 2002, the Sudanese Government signed an agreement, which remained in force during 2003, to cease its support of the LRA and to allow the Ugandan Army entry to south Sudan to pursue the LRA. **[3a] (p 25)** "The LRA [reportedly] continued to operate in the south and to hold a large number of child abductees during the year [2003]". **[3a] (p 25)**

Freedom of Movement

6.72 Article twenty-three of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

> "Every citizen has the right to freedom of movement and residence in
> the country, to leave and return to the country, and these rights shall
> not be restricted except in accordance with law." **[4] (p 4)**

6.73 However, according to the USSD Report for 2003, freedom of movement was severely restricted by the Government: "Movement was generally unhindered for citizens outside the war zones; however, travelers who failed to produce an identity card at checkpoints risked arrest." **[3a] (p 17)** The USSD Report for 2003 also stated that "Some former political detainees have been forbidden to travel outside Khartoum." **[3a] (p 17)** The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' provided details on specific cases involving the restriction of freedom of movement during 2003. **[61] (p 4 -5)** In June 2003 members of Nuba Women's Ru'ya Association were prevented from travelling to a conference in Nuba. **[3a] (p 17)**

6.74 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "The SPLM/A restricted freedom of movement among populations under its control" and purportedly denied citizens from the north or from government-controlled areas entry to SPLM areas and treated them as though they were foreigners. **[3a] (p 17)** According to the USSD Report for 2003, the SPLM/A forbade northern interpreters from accompanying the CPMT investigation teams into SPLM/A held areas although, after April, there were no reports of such restrictions. **[3a] (p 17 - 18)**

6.75 Africa Review of the World of Information, September 2002 stated that "In general, no land borders into or out of Sudan can be safely crossed, with the

exception of the Wadi Halfa crossing into Egypt." [20] (p 6)

Passports

6.76 According to the Danish Immigration's 'Report on fact-finding mission to Cairo, Khartoum and Nairobi in 2001, the Passports and Immigration Department in Khartoum issued national passports and "Any Sudanese citizen could have a national passport issued to him if he can produce valid proof of nationality and an identity card." [9b] (p 56) "Sudanese citizens who were staying abroad and whose passport had expired could apply to the nearest Sudanese embassy or to the passport issuing authorities in Khartoum for a new passport." [9b] (p 56)

6.77 The Danish 2001 fact-finding Report stated that "There were two types of passport which were normally used, one for business travellers (pale blue cover) and one for ordinary travellers (green cover)." [9b] (p 56) The mission was also told that "From 2002 new technically improved passport types would be issued to replace the above, which were relatively easy to falsify." [9b] (p 56)

Exit Visas

6.78 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "The Government claimed it had canceled the exit requirement for its citizens; however, in practice, the Government still denied travel privileges to certain individuals when they arrived at exit ports (such as airports)." [3a] (p 17)

6.79 Formerly, two types of exit visa were in use, since May 1998; one type was issued to Sudanese nationals travelling abroad to work and the other type of exit visa was issued to everyone else. [9b] (p 56) According to the Danish 2001 fact-finding Report, "To obtain an exit visa for countries which required a visa for entry, then that entry visa had to be produced" by the Sudanese citizen wishing to travel. [9b] (p 56) The law allowed the authorities to refuse issuing an exit visa to a person wishing to travel abroad and "The decision was taken by a court, which informed the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the immigration authorities about its decision." [9b] (p 56)

6.80 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "policemen, physicians, and persons on maintained lists of political figures" were reportedly among the categories of persons who were not permitted to travel abroad. [3a] (p 17) In the 2000 Danish Immigration 'Report on the fact-finding mision to Cairo (Egypt) and Geneva (Switzerland)' the various sources consulted appear to disagree on the ease with which politically orientated Sudanese citizens could exit the country. [9a] (p 26 - 28)

6.81 The USSD Report stated "For example, in January [2003], the Government stopped women belonging to the Sudanese Women Empowerment for Peace Program, who were trying to leave for a workshop in Nairobi. None of the eight women were allowed to leave". [3a] (p 17) The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Women cannot

travel abroad without the permission of their husbands or male guardians; however, this prohibition was not strictly enforced, especially for National Congress members." [3a] (p 17, 21) The SHRO Report on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' reported that "On November 13 [2003], the council of ministers recognized the right of women to travel in all regions and abroad unless restricted by legal procedure." [61] (p 3)

Airport Security

6.82 The 2001 Danish fact-finding Report explained the embarkation process at Khartoum Airport. [9b] (p 56 - 57) Colonel Ismail H. Rasoul of the Khartoum Airport Police told the mission that, after the first baggage check, the traveller has to present his passport with an exit visa, which is then stamped and the traveller himself completes a departure form, which is then registered on computer. [9b] (p 56) The airport security police at Khartoum airport have a list of wanted persons, which is checked at this point of the embarkation process. [9b] (p 56 - 57) The Report stated that "His baggage is then checked by the customs authorities." and "Before a person gains access to the plane his passport is checked again." [9b] (p 57)

6.83 Three sources consulted by the Danish mission in 2000 agreed that, apart from those on the Government's list of wanted persons, Sudanese citizens were easily able to resort to bribery to obtain passports, exit visas and to pass by border control officers. [9a] (p 27 - 28) The 2000 fact-finding Report stated that "The authorities are not very well able to check on all departing passengers." and that "This is due to shortage of financial resources and a general casualness about checks on departure." [9a] (p 28)

Returning Sudanese Nationals

6.84 The 2001 Danish fact-finding Report and a letter dated 5 June 2002 from the British Ambassador to Sudan's Legal Advisor agreed that they were not aware of a written decree stating that returning Sudanese nationals who had been abroad for more than one year would be arrested and detained for questioning. [9b] (p 55) [25d] (p 2) There is a tax regulation, however, that stipulates that Sudanese nationals who have been abroad for more than one year and have worked abroad must pay tax on their foreign income. [9b] (p 54, 55) [25d] (p 2) According to the 2001 fact-finding Report, this must be settled either at a Sudanese embassy or with the tax authorities on their return to Sudan and that, consequently, returning Sudanese nationals may be questioned about any income they have received abroad or any tax they owe to the Government. [9b] (p 54 - 5)

6.85 The 2001 fact-finding mission spoke with Major General Abdulbagi Albushra Abdulhay, Director of Passport and Immigration in Khartoum. "Abdulhay said that no Sudanese had been arrested or even questioned on their return from abroad unless they had some unresolved business with the Sudanese tax authorities or were suspected of previous criminal activities in Sudan." [9b] (p 54) The mission also consulted with the Netherlands Embassy who stated that it was the practice of the

Sudanese police to question returning Sudanese citizens who had been abroad for a couple of years and this was often due to a failure to pay tax. [9b] (p 55)

6.86 The 2001 fact-finding Report stated that "The Netherlands Embassy was not aware of any examples of people suffering any harm while being questioned." [9b] (p 55) A British Embassy (BE) letter dated 10 June 2002 stated that they regularly received reports from SOAT, in which there was no suggestion that returnees were regularly detained. [25d] (p 1)

6.87 The 2000 Danish fact-finding Report contained varying opinons about the risk to returning members of opposition political parties. [9a] (p 25 - 26) The interviewees appeared to agree that anyone openly engaging in political activitites abroad would risk being questioned and possibly arrested on returning but whilst one source thought low-ranking members would be at more risk than high-ranking, another source thought the opposite. [9a] (p 25) The 2000 fact-finding Report stated that people returning to Sudan from countries that had tense or hostile relations with Sudan would be questioned, while the Danish 2001 fact-finding Report singled out returnees from Israel as being at particular risk. [9a] (p 25) [9b] (p 54)

Arbitrary Interference with Privacy

6.88 Article twenty-nine of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

> "A.   All citizens are allowed freedom of communication and correspondence. Confidentiality is guaranteed and no communication or correspondence may be observed or recorded except as provided by law.
> B.   Personal privacy of residence, living quarter, households and family are sacred and they may not be investigated except by permission or as provided by law." [4] (p 5)

6.89 However, according to the USSD Report for 2003, the Government consistently violated citizens' rights to privacy. [3a] (p 9)

6.90 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "Security forces frequently conducted night searches without warrants and targeted persons suspected of political crimes." [3a] (p 9) The USSD Report stated that the security forces had searched the homes of persons thought to be guilty of brewing alcoholic beverages, routinely opened and read mail and monitored telephones. [3a] (p 9) "A wide network of government informants conducted pervasive surveillance in schools, universities, markets, workplaces and neighbourhoods." [3a] (p 9)

6.91 According to the USSD Report for 2003, in general, the SPLM/A was not known to interfere with privacy, family, home or correspondence in the areas of south Sudan under its control. [3a] (p 9)

6.B HUMAN RIGHTS: SPECIFIC GROUPS

Ethnic Groups

6.92 Article twenty-seven of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

> "Every sect or group of citizens have the right to keep their particular culture, language or religion, and to voluntarily bring up their children within the framework of these traditions. It is prohibited to impose one's traditions on children by coersion." [4] (p 5)

6.93 According to the USSD Report on Human Rights Practices for 2003 that "The Government continued the Islamisation and Arabisation of the country and, there were credible allegations of forced Islamization of non-Muslims." [3a] (p 2)

6.94 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "The estimated population of 27.5 million was a multiethnic mix of more than 500 Arab and African tribes with numerous languages and dialects." [3a] (p 22) According to Britannica.com, "There are more than one hundred languages spoken as mother tongues in the Sudan." [6b] Ethnologue.com (see Annex D) lists one hundred and forty-two languages for Sudan and stated "Of those, 134 are living languages and 8 are extinct." [34] (p 1) The Library of Congress's Country Study dated June 1991 claimed that "The number of languages spoken in Sudan is assumed to be about 400 languages, including languages spoken by an insignificant number of people." [35a] (p 2)

6.95 To overcome these language barriers, most Sudanese have become multi-lingual, using Arabic and to a lesser extent, English as a second language. [6b] The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Arabic is the official national language and is the most common medium for the conduct of government, commerce, and urban life throughout the country." whilst "English has been acknowledged as the principal language in the south since 1972." [6b]

6.96 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "Northern Muslims, who formed a majority of approximately 16 million persons, traditionally have dominated the Government." whilst "The southern ethnic groups fighting the civil war (largely followers of traditional indigenous religions or Christians) total approximately 6 million." [3a] (p 22) The report also stated that "The Muslim majority and the Government [reportedly] continued to discriminate against ethnic minorities in almost every aspect of society" and "Citizens in Arabic-speaking areas who did not speak Arabic experience discrimination in education, employment, and other areas." [3a] (p 22)

6.97 The USSD Report for 2003 reported on intermittent reports of intertribal abductions of women and children in the South, primarily in the Eastern Upper Nile and that these abduction were part of traditional warfare in which abductees were taken as bounty by the victor. [3a] (p 23) The abductors frequently tried to absorb the abductees into their own tribe, although there were traditional methods of bargaining and returning women who were taken during such raids. [3a] (p 23)

Arabs

6.98 According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Those Sudanese who consider themselves Arabs are, for the most part, racially mixed and many of them are indistinguishable from black southerners." [6a] Sudan's Arabs do not constitute a cohesive group, despite their common language and religion; and are highly differentiated in their mode of livelihood, comprising city dwellers, village farmers and pastoral nomads. [6a]

6.99 Arabic has several different forms and a speaker of one form may not necessarily understand the speaker of another. [35a] (p 2) Some of the varieties recorded are:

- Classical Arabic, the language of the Quran, which is generally only used in writing or by the educated in conversation;
- Modern Standard Arabic which is, in principle, the same throughout the world but in fact varies from country to country;
- Sudanese colloquial Arabic, spoken in roughly the eastern half of the country;
- Colloquial Arabic, generally spoken in western Sudan which is close to colloquial Arabic spoken in Chad and
- Juba, or pidgin, Arabic is spoken in southern Sudan would not be understood by north Sudanese. [35a] (p 2) [34] (p 2)

6.100 Historically, Sudan's Arabs tribes are based on presumed descent from a common ancestor but the tribal system had largely disappeared in urban areas and settled villages. [6a] The tribal system had retained its strength among the nomads of the plains who raise cattle, sheep, and camels. [6a] Encylopaedia Britannica stated that "Each Arab tribe or cluster of tribes is in turn assigned to a larger tribal grouping, of which the two largest are the Jalayin and the Juhaynah." [6a] The former consisted of the sedentary agriculturalists along the middle Nile, whilst the latter encompassed the nomadic tribes of western and northeastern Sudan, although some of them have also settled. [6a]

Nubians & Beja

6.101 Encyclodaedia Britannica stated that "Besides Arabs, there are several Muslim but non-Arab ethnic groups in the north." [6a] The most prominent of these, the Nubians live along the Nile in the far north and in southern Egypt. [6a] [35a] (p 4) They speak Nubian and also Arabic as a second language. [6a] [35a] (p 4) Approximately two and a half million Sudanese people speak a Nubian dialect. [39] (p 357 - 358). Other smaller groups, who speak a related language, claim a link with the Nile Nubians and have been given local names like Birqid and the Meidab in Darfur. [35a] (p 4) Nile Nubians, although seeking to retain a link with their traditional homeland, have resettled in towns such as Khartoum, Kassala and Port Sudan to work as domestic servants and semi-skilled labourers but also as teachers or civil servants. [35a] (p 4)

6.102 Most Beja, pastoral nomads who inhabit the Red Sea Hills and have probably done so since ancient times, also speak Arabic and Arab influence has led the Beja to adopt Islam and geneaologies linking them to Arab ancestors, to arabise their names and to include Arabic terms in their language. [6a] [35a] (p 4) However, the Beja are mostly descended from an indigenous people and have retained their Bedawiye language. [6a] [35a] (p 4) [34] (p 4) The Library of Congress' 'Sudan - A Country Study', compiled in June 1991, stated that "In the 1990s, most Beja belonged to one of four groups--the Bisharin, the Amarar, the Hadendown and the Bani Amar." [35a] (p 4) The 'World Directory of Minorities', published in 1997 claimed that the Government was alarmed by the Beja's pride in culture and traditions, which it perceived to be incompatiable with Arab-Islamic identity. [37] (p 461) According to a Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) report from June 2002, there have been accusations of government targeting of the Beja people but the IRB was unable at that time to find information confirming the veracity of those allegations. [31b] (p 1)

Massaleit (Masalit)

6.103 The Massaleit are black African Muslims who live in Darfur State in the north west of Sudan. [7] (p 22) According to the 'Encyclopaedia of Peoples of the World', published in 1993, the Massaleit, whose language is also called Massaleit, totalled around 67,000. [38] (p 391) [34] (p 14) 'Sudan - A country Study' stated that the Massaleit lived on the Sudan-Chad border and were primarily cultivators. [35a] (p 5)

6.104 The UNHCR's June 2000 'Background Paper' reported that the Massaleit claimed that the Government is engaged in a policy of "Arabisation" and that government-sponsored militia groups are trying to eradicate them and other black tribes from western Sudan. [7] (p 22) The 'Background Paper' stated that "Different reports concur, claiming that the government has interfered in local politics and armed both sides of inter-tribal wars, which has resulted in increased violent clashes between rival tribes." [7] (p 22)

6.105 The Massaleit suffered attacks by nomadic Arab militias and Government forces, which have resulted in the destruction of their homes, looting of their property, injuries and death. [11k] AI's February 2004 Report 'Darfur: "Too many people killed for no reason" outlined the background to the conflict in Darfur and detailed the numerous reports of human rights abuses that continued to occur in the region. [11k]

See also Section 6.B: Darfur below and Opposition Political Groups - Darfur

Fur (Four)

6.106 Encyclopaedia Brittanica stated that "Another non-Arabised Muslim people is the Fur; these sedentary agriculturalists live in or near the Marra Mountains in the far west." [6a] They have resisted Arabisation despite being long surrounded and ruled

by Arabs. [35a] (p 5) According to the 'Encyclopaedia of Peoples of the World' the Fur tribe, who speak a language also called Fur, numbered an estimated 55,000. [38] (p 221) [34] (p 2) 'Sudan - A Country Study' noted that "Those [Fur] who acquired a substantial herd of cattle could maintain it only by living like the neighbouring Baqqara Arabs, and those who persisted in this pattern eventually came to be thought of as Baqqara." [35a] (p 5)

6.107 The Fur have long been at risk from Arabic nomadic groups, originally for environmental reasons which later became entwined with racial prejudice, and have continued to suffer attacks by armed militia and Government forces. [37] (p 460) [11k] AI's February 2004 Report 'Darfur: "Too many people killed for no reason" outlined the background to the conflict in Darfur and detailed the numerous reports of human rights abuses that continued to occur in Darfur. [11k]

See also Section 6.B: Darfur below and Opposition Political Groups - Darfur

Zaghawa (Zaghewa)

6.108 On the plateau North of the Fur are the Zaghawa, who speak Zaghawa and large numbers of whom live in Chad. [6a] [34] (p 21) [35a] (p 5) [34] (p 21) They are seminomadic people who call themselves Beri, although the Arabs refer to them as Zaghawa. [35a] (p 5) According to Ethnologue.com, the Zaghawa in Sudan numbered approximately 102,000 in 1982. [34] (p 21) They are mostly herders and gatherers and, although cultivation has become increasingly important, they will revert to gathering in times of drought. [35a] (p 5) According to 'Sudan - A Country Study', whilst they were "Converted to Islam, the Zaghawa nevertheless retain much of their traditional religious orientation." [35a] (p 5)

6.109 The Zaghawa, like the Massaleit and the Fur, have also been subjected to attacks by armed Arab militia and Government forces in 2003. [11k] AI's February 2004 Report 'Darfur: "Too many people killed for no reason" outlined the background to the conflict in Darfur and detailed the numerous reports of human rights abuses that continued to occur in Darfur. [11k]

See also Section 6.B: Darfur below and Opposition Political Groups - Darfur

Darfur

6.110 Nomadic groups such as the Abala, Zeilat and Mahamid have subjected the Fur, Zaghawa and Masalit to raids for some years due largely to desertification, land and travel routes or have been reportedly triggered by 'revenge' motives. [11k] (p 2) Other 'Black' communities, the Dajo, Tunjur and Tama for example, were also beginning to be targeted by the Arab Nomads in 2003 and the beginning of 2004. [11k] (p 3)

6.111 AI's July 2003 report, 'Empty Promises' stated that, in 2001, the Government

declared a State of Emergency and established Special Courts in North, South and West Darfur to deal with murders, attacks and armed banditry that occurred in Darfur. [11j] (p 22) These courts, and the Specialised Criminal Courts that replaced them in West Darfur, are reportedly deeply flawed and hand down death sentences and cruel, inhuman and degrading punish ments after grossly unfair trials. [11j] (p 22 - 23) The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' provided details on specific cases that were heard by the courts in Darfur. [61] (p 17 - 18)

See Section 5: The Judiciary

6.112 AI's 'Empty Promises' report said that members of the sedentary groups in Darfur formed the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) in February 2003 due to what they perceived as a lack of government protection and marginalisation of their region. [11j] (p 1 - 2)

6.113 An IRIN report of 30 July 2003 stated that the insecurity in Darfur was reportedly rapidly deteriorating with widespread looting by the SLA, ongoing intertribal conflicts and retaliatory attacks by the Sudanese government forces. [15i] People were reportedly subjected to arbitrary arrests and interrogation and "Regional analysts told IRIN the situation was particularly worrying because there were no independent monitors in the region, nor any means of recording the widespread abuses and killings." [15i]

6.114 The IRIN reported that the Government and the Sudan Liberation Army had signed a ceasefire accord on 3 September 2003 that was due to take effect on 6 September 2003 for a period of 45 days. [15o] The BBC News website reported on 7 September 2003 that "The Sudanese Government says it has released 54 prisoners suspected members of being members of the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) as part of a new ceasefire agreement." [14c] However, AI claimed that some Darfurians were still being held in October 2003 and Chad's attempts to mediate between the two groups failed, the ceasefire collapsed in December 2003 and fighting escalated. [11c] (p 1) [15w] [3a] (p 12) According to the SLM/A and another Darfurian rebel group, the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), violence had continued throughout the term of the ceasefire. [15u]

6.115 AI reported in November 2003 that there was compelling evidence that the Sudanese government was largely responsible for the human rights crisis and humanitarian emergency in Darfur. [11a] (p 1) The report stated that "The testimonies of scores of refugees describing attacks on rural communities by militias which included members of the armed forces or the security forces has led us to the bleak conclusion that at least some elements in the army are encouraging this devastation." [11a] (p 1) The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' also provided details on the situation and human rights abuses in Darfur during 2003. [61] (p 1, 11 - 12, 14 - 15, 19 -22) According to reports on Democratic Unionist Party's web site, in late 2003 and early 2004 the Sudanese Government accused Eritrea, the PNC, the SPLM and Israel of all backing the rebels in Darfur. [67b] [67a] [67k]

6.116 According to a report from the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) web "The Sudanese government has described the humanitarian situation in Northern Darfur State [western Sudan] as critical and explained it reached alarming proportions during the last five days due to the worsening of the security situation in a number of areas caused by military operations between the government army and the rebel SLM/A [Sudan Liberation Movement/Army]." **[67j]** Another DUP web site article stated that the Government and its allied militias, according to unanimous reports, had launched attacks on villages in rebel-controlled areas. **[67i]**

6.117 AI's February 2004 Report 'Darfur: "Too many people killed for no reason" outlined the background to the conflict in Darfur and detailed the numerous reports of human rights abuses that continued to occur in Darfur. **[11k]** These abuses included the looting and destruction of property, the bombing of civilians, abductions, detentions, extrajudicial and unlawful killings, torture and rape by Government forces or Government-supported Arab militias. **[11k]** In April 2004, Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a report called "Darfur in Flames: Atrocities in Western Sudan" which also detailed the abuses committed by both Government and rebel forces. **[10f]**

6.118 BBC News reported in March 2004 on clashes that occurred in a camp for internally displaced people (IDP) in Khartoum, which was hosting some of those displaced by the fighting in Darfur. **[14l]** Two thousand of the IDPs were relocated following the clashes and dozens of students and politicians from Darfur, who had supported the IDPs, were reportedly arrested in connection with the clashes. **[14l]** The Ummah Party, according to Voice of Sudan radio, requested that the Government disclose the whereabouts of two hundred of the displaced persons who had been transferred and called for the hastening of the release of those who had been detained. **[63a]**

6.119 On 7 April 2004 the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, in an address to the UN Human Rights Commission, referred to the forcible displacement of deliberately targeted communities and stated that, "Whatever terms it uses to describe the situation [in Darfur], the international community cannot stand idle." **[2c] (p 2)** The Suna News Agency reported that the response to Annan's statement was to state that Darfur required humanitarian aid, not foreign intervention and to describe the allegations of ethnic cleansing in the region as baseless. **[49d] [49e]**

6.120 Conversely, the BBC and Sudan Television reported, also on 8 April 2004, that a ceasefire and a protocol on the delivery of humanitarian aid to Darfur had been signed by the Government, the SLM/A and the JEM, whilst the Republic of Sudan Radio stated that the government claimed to be committed to providing security and necessary needs in Darfur and that those affected by the conflict would be compensated. **[14m] [69j] [70b]** The BBC report stated that "Sudan analyst Eva Dadrian from the Africa Analysis newsletter said it will be hard for the government to reign in the Arab militia – the Janjaweed – which have been leading the attacks on black civilians in Darfur." **[14m]** The report stated that Dadrian told the BBC Network Africa programme that "Darfur is a very vast region and the government will have

difficulty to control these people. The Janjaweed are everywhere. They hide in the mountains." **[14m]**

See also Section 6.B: <u>Opposition Political Groups - Darfur</u>

Nilotes - Dinka, Nuer and Shilluk

6.120 Encyclopaedia Britannica stated that "Chief among the Nilotic peoples are the Dinka, Nuer and Shilluk, who together make up almost one-fifth of The Sudan's total population." **[6b]** The languages of these three groups are called the same as each group (e.g. the Dinka speak Dinka). **[34] (p 6 - 7, 16, 17) [39] (p 358)** The Dinka made up roughly 40 percent of southern Sudan's population and approximately 10 percent of Sudan's population as a whole; the Nuer were between a quarter to a third the size of the Dinka and the Shilluk only about a quarter of the size of the Nuer. **[35a] (p 6)** The Dinka have as many as twenty-five tribal groups, whereas the Nuer has nine or ten separately named groups. **[35a] (p 6)**

6.122 According to Encyclopaedia Britannica "The Dinka are mostly cattle-herders on the plains east of the White Nile, while the Shilluk are more settled farmers on the West Bank of the river. The Nuer live farther south, east of the Mountain Nile." **[6b]** 'Sudan - A Country Report' stated that "The Dinka were widely distributed over the northern part of the southern region, particularly Aali an Nil and Bahr al Ghazal." **[35a] (p 6)** The Nuer populace is also widely distributed, while the Shilluk, who call themselves Collo, are permanently settled in a limited and unbroken area just north of the point where the Bahr al Jabal becomes the White Nile proper. **[35a] (p 7)**

6.123 Unlike the Dinka and the Nuer, the Shilluk are traditionally ruled by a single politico-religious head (Reth) who is believed, on assuming the leadership as king, to be the representative, if not a reincarnation of the mythical hero Nyiking. **[35a] (p 7)**

6.124 According to the 'World Directory of Minorities' the Dinka's close proximity to cattle herding Arabic tribes has made them vulnerable to attacks, which have resulted in the death of their men and the abductions and slavery of many of their women and children. **[37] (p 458)** Human Rights Watch stated in its February 2003 briefing to the UN Commision on Human Rights that the ethnic militias, who the Sudanese Government reportedly sponsor and who received the assistance of the Sudanese army, have engaged in scorched earth campaigns against Nuer civilians. **[10c] (p 1)** This occurred in the oilfields of Western Upper Nile/Unity State in particular and has resulted in the forcible displacement of thousands, the death of scores of civilians and incidents of rape. **[10c] (p 1)**

6.125 Sections of the Dinka have fought sections of the Nuer and there have also been conflicts between groups within the tribes. **[35a] (p 7)** Some of the Dinka have been absorbed by the Nuer, which has resulted in present day sections of the Nuer having significant Dinka components. **[35a] (p 7)** According to the USSD Report for

2003 "There were deaths in conflicts between ethnic groups, such as continued fighting between Dinka and Nuer or between Nuer tribes" and "Intertribal fighting among Nuer tribesmen also continued during the year [2003]". [3a] (p 23)

6.126 In July 2003, an All Upper Nile Peace Conference was attended by representatives of 25 of the 30 adminstrative areas of the region. [15e] Delegates from the Government of Sudan, NGOs and the Civilian Protection Monitoring Team also attended, among others. [15e] The conference reached a consensus on the formation of a regional peace committee, the recommendation of a Nuer peace and reconciliation conference and on the strengthening of local governance in the region. [15e]

6.127 In March 2004, IRIN reported on the escalation of fighting in Shilluk kingdom, resulting in the death and displacement of civilians. [15x] Militias and government forces from Malakal had reportedly attacked villages to the west of Awajwok. [15x] (p 1) The IRIN report stated that "Since the SPLM-U [Sudan People's Liberation Movement - United], led by Lam Akol - who split from the SPLM/A in 1991 - realigned with the SPLM/A last October, tensions and violence in the region have been flaring up. A regional analyst told IRIN that some of Akol's Shilluk forces had rejected the merger and were involved in the recent violence, but that it was unclear how many." [15x] (p 1)

6.128 "A regional analyst told IRIN" it reported in April 2004 "that up to 75,000 people were believed to have been displaced by conflict in the nearby Shilluk kingdon, which pits government-backed Nuer and Shilluk militas against the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPML/A)." [15y] (p 1) The IRIN report went on to state that "Sudanese regular forces reportedly withdrew from the Shilluk kingdom in early April." Consequently, the situation had calmed "But the militia and government forces were now said to be moving back into the kingdom, especially around Tonga." [15y] (p 2)

Nuba

6.129 Encyclopaedia Britannica stated that "One of the most important non-Muslim peoples in The Sudan is the Nuba, who live in the Nuba Mountains north of the Nilotes." [6b] The Nuba Mountains cover about thirty thousand square miles, approximately a third of which consists of mountains, in Southern Kordofan. [24] (p 2) The area contains few significant roads or towns and stretches to Dilling in the north, past Talodi and Buram in the south, Lagowa to the west and beyond Heiban in the east. [24] (p 2)

6.130 An article entitiled 'The Nuba People: Confronting Cultural Liquidation' published in 2000 explained that "The numbers of Nuba are unclear." [24] (p 2) The article stated that Nuba estimates placed the figure at between approximately 1.2 million and two million, the Government contended that there were 1.1 million Nuba in Sudan. [24] (p 2) The Nuba are a complex people of approximately three dozen black ethnic groups with many cultures who speak more than fifty languages, which are colectively known as 'Hill Nubian'. [24] (p 2) [35a] (p 9) Examples of the various

languages are Dilling, Koalib, Keiga, Midobi, Birked, Temein, Daju, Otaro and Tira (see Annex D). [34] [41] [6b]

6.131 According to 'Sudan - A Country Study', these groups, whilst collectively known as the Nuba, vary considerably in their culture and social organisation. [35a] (p 9) Some are patrilineally organised in that they base or trace their descent on the male line. [35a] (p 9) Others follow matrilineal patterns, they trace their descent on the female line and a very few, in southeastern Nuba, have both patri- and matrilineal groupings in the same community. [35a] (p 9) The various Kordofanian languages spoken by the Nuba are not generally mutually intelligible except for some of adjacent communities. [35a] (p 9) The Nuba practice religious and ethnic tolerance and are a mixture of Christians, Muslims and followers of traditional animist religions. [24] (p 6) Considering the Arabisation of the people around them, only a relatively small number of Nuba have adopted Arabic as their home language and even fewer have converted to Islam. [35a] (p 9)

For more details on the Nuba people's cultures and traditions see 'Nuba Survival'. [36]

6.132 According to the USSD Report for 2003 "Civil authorities and institutions did not operate in parts of the rebel-held south and the Nuba Mountains." [3a] (p 8) Some areas of the south and the Nuba Mountains fell outside effectual judicial procedures and other governmental operations and the USSD Report stated that "According to credible reports, government units summarily tried and punished those accused of crimes, especially for offenses against civil order." [3a] (p 8)

6.133 The article 'The Nuba People: Confronting Cultural Liquidation' claimed that "The Government of the Sudan has pursued a strategy of liquidation [against the Nuba] since the 1980s." [24] (p 2) During 2001, the Government made sustained military attacks in the Nuba Mountains areas that the SPLA controlled. [10a] (p 3) However, in January 2002, the SPLM/A and the Government agreed to a six-month renewable military ceasefire in the Nuba Mountains area after six days of negotiations in Switzerland. [17] The Government and SPLM/A's most recent agreement to renew the ceasefire for a further six months occurred in January 2004, resulting in the JMC/JMM's fifth mandate. [79]

6.134 The IRIN reported that the ceasefire resulted in the establishment of an international presence; a cessation of hostilities and reduction in violence; humanitarian access and aid; and a check on the alarming decline of the food security situation in the SPLM/A-controlled areas of the region. [15c] (1 - 2) A Deutsche Presse Agentur article of January 2004 reported that there had been no major infringements of the ceasefire since the agreement was signed in January 2002 and that "Of 54 investigated alleged ceasefire allegations, only nine cases had been considered real violations." [79]

Women

6.135 Article fifteen of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

"The State shall care for the family, facilitate marriages, develop population policies, provide child care, care for pregnant women, liberate women from injustices in all aspects of life, encourage women's role in the family and public life." [4] (p 3)

6.136 According to the USSD Report for 2003, violence against women persisted and the means for social redress, particularly with respect to violence against women were ineffectual and, although it was legal grounds for divorce, women were unwilling to file official complaints against such abuse. [3a] (p 2, 20) The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' provided details on cases involving violations against women in 2003. [61] (p 6, 18)

6.137 The USSD Report for 2003 also reported that "Some aspects of the law discriminated against women, including certain provisions of Shari'a interpreted and applied by the Government, and many traditional law practices." [3a] (p 21) Shari'a law provided a Muslim woman with the right to possess and dispose of her own property without impediment and Muslim women were guaranteed inheritance from their parents although daughters inherited half the share of sons. A Muslim widow inherited a smaller proportion than did her children. [3a] (p 21)

6.138 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "It was much easier for [Muslim] men to initiate divorce proceedings than for [Muslim] women." [3a] (p 21) While a Muslim man could marry a non-Muslim, a Muslim woman could not marry a non-Muslim unless he converted to Islam. [3a] (p 21)

6.139 According to the USSD Report for 2003, there are "A number of Government directives [that] required women in public places and government offices and female students and teachers [to] conform to what the Government deemed an Islamic dress code", which necessitated the wearing of head covering at the least. [3a] (p 21) However, the dress code regulations were reportedly inconsistently enforced. [3a] (p 21)

6.140 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that, in general, women were not discriminated against in the pursuit of work and, despite being forbidden from working after ten o'clock in the evening, many did, including women in official positions such as airport security. [3a] (p 21) However, the Special Rapporteur's (SR) January 2003 Report stated that he had been informed that women continued to be dismissed from public office. [2] (p 12) The Inter-Parliamentary Union website published statistics on 'Women in National Parliaments' and, as of 30 January 2004, Sudan was ranked seventy-ninth of one hundred and eighty-one countries in terms of the precentage of women, which equated to nine point seven percent, in its lower or single House. [57a] (p 1,3)

6.141 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "Violence against women in Sudan was a problem; however, since reliable statistics did not exist, its prevalence was

unknown". [3a] (p 20) The SR reported in January 2003 that "Women living alone are reportedly often harassed by the security services, including sexually." [2] (p 12) "The punishment for rape under the Criminal Act varied from 100 lashes to 10 years imprisonment to death" although convictions for rape are typically unannounced and it is believed that punishments are often less than the maximum provided by law. [3a] (p 20)

6.142 The USSD Report stated that "Displaced women from the south were vulnerable to harassment, rape, and sexual abuse" and "A Khartoum-based NGO reported that female students were threatened with rape while detained at the police stations." [3a] (p 20, 21) The USSD Report also reported that "Prostitution is illegal but [reportedly] widespread." and "Trafficking in women was a problem." [3a] (p 21) AI's 2003 Annual Report on Sudan stated that "In government areas women were also singled out for cruel, inhuman or degrading punishments for adultery, in circumstances where the men involved normally remained unpunished." [11b] (p 2)

6.143 More recent reports by AI include the December 2003 sentencing of a sixteen-year-old pregnant girl to 100 lashes for adultery, although this was reportedly postponed in January 2004 pending her appeal, and a Dinka woman of approximately thirty-years of age who was awaiting sentencing in February 2004. [11j] [11k] [11u] The SHRO's 2003 Report cited a number of similar cases and stated that "In November [2003], not less than 14 women from the Monwashi village of Niyala were charged with adultery and flogged 100 floggings each." [61a] (p 18)

6.144 The January 2003 Report of the SR stated that, in SPLM/A-controlled areas, "Women are generally not educated, and when they reach the age of 10 or 12, most of them are reportedly taken as wives by local leaders or commanders." [2] (p 13) An August 2003 IRIN news 'Special report on women in the south' of Sudan concurred, stating that the situation of women has steadily worsened due to under-development, over 20 years of war and inequalities in power structures. Additionally, southern women now shoulder extra burdens placed upon them to due the large reduction of the male population. [15j] (p 1)

6.145 Two of the main problems identified by the report are marriage and education. The former, which is often entered into at a young age, is an indicator of the virtually powerless position of women. The bride dowry, paid by the groom to the bride's family, means marriage is more a material transaction between the two families than a personal bond between husband and wife. [15j] (p 1) Education is out of the reach of most girls who are expected to work at home and then to marry not long after reaching puberty, where they are expected to continue working. While the situation is slowly improving, long held societal and familial attitudes will be difficult to overcome. [15j] (p 2)

Female Genital Mutilation

6.146 The World Health Organisation (WHO) defined Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

as:

> Comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs whether for cultural, religious or other non-therapeutic reasons. [23] (p 5)

6.147 The Sudanese Organisation Against Torture (SOAT) describes the three surgical forms of FGM. [23] (p 5)

- Sunna ('traditional') circumcision involves the removal of the prepuce and the tip of the clitoris.
- Excision or clitorodectomy involves removal of the clitoris and often all the labia minora.
- Infibulation or pharonic circumcision, the most severe of the three, involves excision, the removal of the labia majora and the sealing of the two sides. [23] (p 5)

6.148 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) remained widespread." [3a] (p 2) An estimated eighty-nine percent or more of girls and women in the north have undergone FGM and the most severe type - infibulation - is the most common practiced in Sudan. [23] (p 11) [3a] (p 20) This is despite reports that the practice of infibulation was reportedly dying out in most of the larger towns, especially amongst the educated, or being replaced, in a compromise with tradition, by 'sunna'. [23] (p 8) [3a] (p 20)

6.149 The common word for the FGM operation is 'tahur' meaning purification and the girl enduring the procedure is referred to as the bride, 'al-arus'. [23] (p 8) Families celebrate the operation with great festivity as the day of the operation is considered the most important day in the girl's life. [23] (p 8) Girls often have no choice about undergoing FGM and are stigmatised if they do not submit to the procedure. [23] (p 9) "The girls who have not undergone FGM are placed under enormous societal pressure to do so and are ridiculed with taunts of 'ghalfa' (uncircumcised) and 'nigisha' (unclean)." [23] (p 9)

6.150 In Sudan, 35 percent of FGM operations are carried out by midwives, 0.7 percent by physicians and 64 percent by local women called 'excisors'. [23] (p 9) Traditional, rural practitioners typically perform the practice of FGM in improvised, unsanitary conditions; causing severe pain, trauma and risk of infection to the girl who is usually aged between four and seven. [23] (p 9) [3a] (p 20) The FGM operation is a vital source of income for the birth attendants, which causes difficulties to those campaigning for the eradication of FGM. [23] (p 9)

6.151 Although previously concentrated in the north, FGM is gradually moving towards the west and south of Sudan. [23] (p 11) According to the USSD Report for 2003 "There were reports that women displaced from the south to the north were imposing FGM on their daughters even if they themselves have not been subjected to it, especially among IDPS who have acculturated to the north." [3a] (p 20)

6.152 SOAT explained that "Custom and tradition are by far the most frequently cited reason for FGM and defines who is in the group; this is reinforced in Sudan where FGM is carried out as an initiation into adulthood." [23] (p 8) FGM has also attained a religious element, despite being practised by peoples of all faiths and having no recognisable root in Islam or any other religion. [23] (p 8) The practice is also considered to be of importance in controlling a woman's sexuality, for a variety of reasons. [23] (p 9) SOAT stated that "FGM symbolises the woman as obedient, docile, faithful and the upholder of tradition." [23] (p 9)

Government Attitude/Policy

6.153 SOAT reported that "Sudan was the first African country to outlaw FGM" and its Medical Service first condemned it in the 1930s. [23] (p 8) Legislation to prohibit FGM was endorsed in the 1946 Penal Code, which prohibited infibulation, but permitted Sunna, and ratified again when Sudan became independent. [23] (p 8)

6.154 In 1991, the Government declared its commitment to the eradication of the traditional form of FGM. [23] (p 8) However, according to the USSD Report for 2003, "No form of FGM was illegal under the Criminal Code; however, the law forbade doctors and midwives from performing infibulation" and the Special Rapporteur (SR) reported in January 2003 that the Wali of South Darfur had approved a law against FGM. [3a] (p 20) [2] (p 12) Nevertheless "The Government has neither arrested nor prosecuted any persons for violating the health law against infibulation [in 2003]." [3a] (p 20) The USSD Report stated that "The Government does not support FGM, and it has introduced information about FGM in some public education curriculums." and that "one local NGO was working to eradicate FGM" [3a] (p 20)

6.155 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "In August, there was a highly publicized government-sponsored 3-day conference on FGM." during which the Minister of Health spoke out in opposition to the procedure. [3a] (p 20, 21) The media provided widespread coverage of FGM for the first time and President Bashir was reportedly misquoted when he publicly announced his support for the 'sunna' form of FGM. [3a] (p 21) In September 2003, the Government reaffirmed its commitment to eradicate the practice of FGM and according to an IRIN report, Sudanese newspapers contained articles stating that the national Human Rights Advisory Council had said it would support the drafting of a specific law to criminalise FGM. [15m]

Children

6.156 Article fourteen of the 1998 Constitution of the Republic of Sudan states:

> "The State shall care for children and youth, protect them from physical and spiritual exploitation and neglect, and shall implement policies for moral care and national education and religious values to

ensure good future generations." [4] (p 3)

6.157 The USSD Report on Human Rights Practices for 2003 reported that the abuse of children persisted and the "Government's commitment to children's rights and welfare was uneven throughout the country." [3a] (p 2, 21)

6.158 According to the UNHCR's Background Paper of 2000, "Children continue to be the most vulnerable group in Sudan." [7] They were reportedly the principal targets of raids conducted by militias and both the Government and its opponents recruit them into the armed forces. [7] One such example, cited in the USSD Report for 2003, was the October 2003 abduction of three boys in Khartoum that the CPMT reported as being part of a broader campaign of forced conscription and extortion particularly targeting young Nuer males that persisted in Khartoum. [3a] (p 22) [60b]

6.159 The UN Special Rapportuer (SR) for Sudan stated in January 2003 that "Reportedly, street children and juvenile justice remain areas of concern." [2] (p 13) The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "The Government operated camps for vagrant children" to which the police habitually sent homeless children who had committed crimes, where they were detained for indefinite periods. [3a] (p 22) "Health care and schooling at the camps generally were [reportedly] poor, and basic living conditions often were primitive." [3a] (p 22) The SR stated in January 2003 that street children in Khartoum were mostly IDPs and that they were exploited in terms of forced labour, including sexually, by networks. [2] (p 13)

6.160 The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) operated in Sudan, working on issues such as the advocacy and promotion of the rights of women and children, health, education and the construction of community centres. [78a] [78b]

6.161 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that, "Although the legal minimum age for workers was 18 years, the law was not enforced in practice" and that children as young as eleven or twelve years of age work in a number of factories, particularly outside Khartoum. [3a] (p 24) The Government has ratified ILO Convention 182 on the worst forms of child labour and ILO Convention 138 on the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment in March 2003 but has not taken steps to investigate abuses or care for child workers. [3a] (p 24)

6.162 The SR was informed that child exploitation continued to take place, particularly in the agricultural and pastoral sectors, and that "Families are poor and forced to send their children to work rather than school." [2] (p 13) The USSD Report for 2003 concurred stating that "In addition, severe poverty has produced widespread child labour in the informal economy" and "In rural areas, children traditionally assisted their families with agricultural work from a very young age." [3a] (p 24)

6.163 According to his report of January 2003 "The Special Rapporteur was also informed that forced recruitment of children in war zones has reportedly continued." [2] (p 13) According to the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers briefing on 'Child Soldier Use 2003 - Sudan', children were forcibly recruited by the Popular Defence Forces and by pro-Government militias in 2002 and 2003. [59b] (p 5) As of 29 January

2004, whilst Sudan was a signatory of the 'Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (25 May 2000)', it had not yet been ratified by the Government. [59a] (p 1, 5) In February 2003, the Humanitarian Aid Commission and UNICEF held the first workshop focusing on child soldier demobilisation in government-controlled areas. [59b] (p 6)

6.164 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "Rebel factions have conscripted citizens forcibly, including high school age children." and "UNICEF [the United Nations Children's' Fund] reported that an estimated 7,000-8,000 child soldiers remained with the SPLM/A." [3a] (p 22) The Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers also stated that "Reports indicated continued abductions of children by the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA)." [59b] (p 6) The SR reported that, despite some progress regarding the demobilisation of child soldiers, the forced recruitment of children of about fifteen years of age continued in conflict areas and the number of child soldiers remained high. [2] (p 15) "UNICEF, Save the Children and the SPLA continued to collaborate on the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers; however, demobilization stagnated due to waning political and administrative commitment from the SPLA." [59b] (p 5)

6.165 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "Child labour existed in SPLM/A-held areas, particularly in the agricultural sectors." [3a] (p 25) The lack of schools, extreme poverty, and the absence of an effective legal minimum age for workers reportedly exacerbated the problem of child labour in the south. [3a] (p 24)

Homosexuals

6.166 According to a letter dated 23 January 2001 from the British Embassy in Khartoum, "The 1991 Criminal Code, proscribes penetrative sexual intercourse between two men or between a man and a woman anally". [25b] (p 1) A first time offence carried a penalty of up to five years imprisonment and fifty lashes; the same again for a second offence and for a third offence the death penalty or a sentence of life imprisonment is applied. [25b] (p 1) There are no specific penalties that apply to lesbians and lesbianism is a taboo subject, although the British Embassy understood that some, mainly high-class women were known to be lesbians. [25b] (p 2)

6.167 Homosexual activity is known to go on in Sudanese society but not openly and the British Embassy in 2001 was not aware of any specific cases of persecution, however they stated that "[But] communities are likely to cut off all contact with homosexuals." [25b] (p 2, 1) The International Lesbian and Gay Association's 'World Legal Survey', last updated in April 1999, contained dated and limited information on the situation of gay people in Sudan. [7]

6.168 A January 2004 article published on the 'Behind the Mask' website stated that "According to unconfirmed reports from a Sudanese source 2 men were arrested on December 25, 2003 at a café in Omdurman." [46] The same Sudanese source stated that gay people had to contact each other through the Internet but that this in itself carried risks as gay men have been targeted on the web. [46] The source continued "Homosexuality is illegal in Sudan, therefore gays remain subject to imprisonment, torture and in some cases the death penalty." [46]

6.169 The British Embassy's letter of 2001 stated that "In Southern Sudan, as far as we are aware, homosexuality is not much known in the culture, particularly as there is less difficulty about contact between men and women." [25b] (p 2)

Religious Groups

6.170 The USSD Report on Human Rights Practices for 2003 reported that discrimination and violence against religious minorities continued. [3a] (p 2) The USSD RF Report for 2003 stated that, "According to most estimates, between 65 and 75 percent of the population is Muslim and adherents include numerous Arabic and non-Arabic groups." [3b] (p 1) Encyclopaedia Britannica stated that "It is estimated that more than one-half of the population of The Sudan is Muslim." and that "Ninety percent of these people live in the northern two-thirds of the country." [6n] (p 1) Europa's 'Africa South of the Sahara - 2004' contains estimated numbers of adherents to Islam and some of the major Christian churches and Encyclopadia Britannica estimated that "Christians account for between 4 and 10 percent of the population." [1] (p 1088) [6n] (p 1)

6.171 The USSD RF Report for 2003 reported that "Muslims predominate in the north of the country but there are sizeable Christian communities in northern cities, principally in areas where there are large numbers of internally displaced persons." [3b] (p 1) The total number of southerners displaced in the north by the war is estimated at more than 4 million. [3b] (p 1)

6.172 According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, "Most Sudanese people in the south adhere to either Christianity or traditional indigenous religions; however there are some Muslim adherents as well, particularly along the historical dividing line between Arabs and Nilotic ethnic groups." [3b] (p 1) Britannica.com stated that "At least one third of The Sudan's population follow traditional animist religions, particularly in the south and in the Nuba Mountains" and "Although these animists share some common elements of religious belief, each ethnic group has its own indigenous religion." [6n] (p 1)

See Section 6.A: Freedom of Religion

Coptic Christians

6.173 Copts, who are followers of the Egyptian Coptic Church, generally live in towns in the north of Sudan such as Al-Obeid, Atbara, Dongola, Khartoum and Port Sudan. [37] (p 461) According to the 'World Directory of Minorities', published in 1997, there were 23 Coptic churches in Sudan. [37] (p 461) According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, "The Government is generally less restrictive of Christian groups that historically have had a presence in he country, such as Coptic Christians and Greek Orthodox, and is more restrictive of newer arrivals." [3b] (p 2)

6.174 Although the Copts have long had a presence in Sudan and their light-skinned appearance and passive demeanour has, in the past, helped them to avoid discrimination, the current Sudanese Government has harassed the Copts in recent years because of their religion. **[37] (p 461)** The USSD RF Report stated that the Coptic community which had once numbered more than 300,000, had decreased to less than 100,000 and that most left the country because of discriminatory government policies that adversely effected their economic livelihood. **[3b] (p 1)**

6.175 The USSD RF Report for 2003 reported on one alleged abduction and forced conversion to Islam of a Coptic Christian woman in October 2002. **[3b] (p 5)** Although the lack of transparency and continuing allegations by the woman's parents reportedly brought into question the evenhandedness of the judicial system and its ability to ensure due process for non-Muslims in particular, the allegations of forced conversion were not confirmed. **[3b] (p 5)**

Catholics

6.176 According to the USSD RF Report for 2003, "The Catholic Church has not registered under the 1994 act requiring religious organizations to register." **[3b] (p 2)** The Catholic Church asserts that its previous registrations in 1905 and 1963 are still valid but the consequence of this is that its marriage licenses are not recognised in Sudan and "The Church has the Vatican authorize the licenses after issuing them locally." **[3b] (p 2)**

6.177 The USSD RF Report for 2003 stated that although missionaries continued to operate in the south and some also in government-controlled areas, the authorities sometimes harassed them and other religiously oriented organisations. **[3b] (p 2)** The assets of various Catholic relief projects were reportedly confiscated when the projects closed temporarily or moved locations and these have been kept with no effort at reimbursement. **[3b] (p 2, 4)** The Government continued to deny permission for the erection of any Roman Catholic churches, although some other Christian groups did receive permission. **[3b] (p 3)** "However," according to the USSD RF Report for 2003 "the Government permitted some makeshift structures to be used for Roman Catholic services". **[3b] (p 3)**

6.178 During 2003 there were reports that Catholic priests continued to be harassed by authorities, though the harassment was reportedly not as overt as in the past. **[3b] (p 4)** The USSD RF Report for 2003 stated that "The Catholic Archbishop of Khartoum did not participate in government-sponsored dialogs [reportedly] because he believes that the Government does not wish genuine dialog to occur." **[3b] (p 4)**

Opposition Political Parties

6.179 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that Sudanese citizens had no real ability or opportunity to peacefully change their government and the major opposition political parties remained largely marginalised from the political process, although they

became more vocal in their demands for inclusion as the peace negotiations progressed during 2003. **[3a] (p1, 2,**

6.180 According to the USSD Report for 2003 "There were no reports of political killings during the year; however, there were numerous reports of extrajudicial killings." **[3a] (p 2)** The detentions of persons perceived as political opponents generally were much longer and political detainees were reportedly held incommunicado, without charge and tortured. **[3a] (p 6 - 7)** High-ranking political prisoners purportedly often benefited from better conditions than other prisoners and, on several occasions, appeals courts overturned the decisions of lower courts in political cases, judgments from public order courts in particular. **[3a] (p 5, 7)**

6.181 The incommunicado detention of political opponents, students and ordinary citizens as well as torture by the security forces, including in the capital Khartoum, are reportedly common. **[11j] (p 7 - 18, 32)** Clashes between National Congress and People's National Congress student supporters occurred reportedly due to student elections being held at Omdurman University, according to a report on Voice of Sudan radio on 10 January 2004. **[63c]** AI's July 2003 report, 'Empty Promises' contained information on prolonged incommunicado detention, detention under Military Intelligence, torture and torture by Military Intelligence and beatings. **[11j] (p 7 - 18)** The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' also provided details on specific cases involving the restriction of freedom of assembly and association during 2003, including the treatment of politically active students. **[61] (p 4 -5, 11 - 16)**

6.182 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "The authorities generally permitted only government-authorized gatherings and routinely denied permission for or disrupted gatherings they view as politically oriented." **[3a] (p 14)** Deaths and injuries reportedly occurred as the result of the police actions in forcibly dispersing demonstrations and there were reports that the security forces tortured, beat and harassed political opponents and suspected political opponents. **[3a] (p 3, 4, 5) [11j] (p 14 - 17, p 32 - 35)** "In October, a political rally was held on the grounds of the University of Khartoum with no interference." **[3a] (p 14 - 15)**

6.183 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "Security forces frequently harassed political opponents by summoning them for questioning, forcing them to remain during the day without questioning, and then ordering them to return the following day. This process sometimes continued for weeks." **[3a] (p 7)** AI's 'Empty Promises' Report also reported on this approach stating that "The practice of summoning people (istid'a) is a frequent form of harassment." **[11j] (p 32)** Security forces regularly carried out night searches without warrants, targeting persons suspected of political offences. **[3a] (p 9)**

6.184 During late 2003 and early 2004, according to various news sources, three leading opposition politicians returned to Sudan and the ruling National Congress renewed its call for opposition politicians to practice their activities within the country. **[69b] [69d] [72c] [65e]72a]** However, Al-Sahafah reported in November 2003 that the NDA had denied its leadership would return to the country and, despite a report by the

Middle East News Agency in December 2003 which stated that al-Mirghani would come back to Sudan as a result of the Jedda Agreement, the leader of the DUP has yet to return from exile. **[65e] [68]**

6.185 In December 2003, Sudan Television broadcast a live speech by President al-Bashir in which he promised far-reaching political changes after the peace agreement. **[69f]** Al-Bashir stated that there was conviction to reform that would encompass all areas of public life, including the democratisation of the country's political and organisational organs. **[69f]** In January 2004, Sudanese Televsion reported that "Sudanese President Umar al-Bashir on Sunday held a rare meeting the leaders of all political parties in Sudan at a special ceremony at the general secretariat of the Council of Ministers in Khartoum." **[69e]**

6.186 President al-Bashir's August 2003 promise to release all political detainees as part of peace talks with the rebel SPLM/A was acted upon and by November 2003, a number of political prisoners were released, including al-Turabi. **[3a] (p 7)** However, the Government authorities continued to detain its political opponents during 2003 even after al-Bashir's promise. **[3a] (p 7)** It was reported by Sudan Television and the Voice of Sudan, in March 2004, that members of the military and the PNC, including al-Turabi himself, were arrested for allegedly plotting an attempted coup. **[69a] [63b]**

See Section 6.A: <u>Freedom of Assembly and Association</u>

<u>Return to Contents</u>

The Umma Party (UP)

6.187 One of Sudan's main political parties is the Umma Party (UP), which continued to be led by Sadiq al-Mahdi in March 2004. **[15q] (p 6)** According to information found on sudan.net "During the last period of parliamentary democracy, the UP was the largest in the country, and its leader [since 1970], Sadiq al Mahdi served as prime minister in all coalition governments between 1986 and 1989." **[28] (p 1)** The party was originally founded in 1945 as the political organisation of the Islamic Ansar movement and its supporters followed the strict teachings of the Mahdi who was the ruler of Sudan in the 1880s. **[28] (p 1)** Since independence, the UP has had alternating periods of political prominence and persecution. **[28] (p 1)**

6.188 BBC News online reported in November 1999 that the Government had signed a peace accord with the Umma Party. **[14a] (p 1)** The UP stated that the accord called for the establishment of a democratic federal system of government in Khartoum and a referendum on southern Sudan's self-determination. **[14a] (p 1)** The BBC reported that "The agreement was finalised in Djibouti, where East African leaders have been meeting to discuss the long-running war, as well as the conflict in Somalia." **[14a]**

6.189 Agence France Presse (AFP) reported in March 2000 that the UP had left the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) reportedly as a result of the proposal of an Egyptian-Libyan initiative for reconciliation between the government and the opposition. **[13a]** The 2001 Danish Report on the fact-finding mission to Cairo, Khartoum and Nairobi reported that "The UP had split and the party withdrew from

the opposition NDA in March 2000 as a result of the agreement with the regime in Khartoum." [9b] (p 15) The Danish Report stated that the faction that supported the agreement with the Government was referred to as 'mainstream UP' and that it was members of this faction that were not at risk of persecution by the authorities. [9b] (p 14 - 15)

6.190 Reuters reported in March 2000 that the premises of the UP, which had been seized by the Government in 1989, had been handed back to the party. [18a] (p 1) [12a] (p 2) The Panafrican News Agency reported in April 2000 that thirty leading figures of the Umma Party had returned to Sudan and, on 23 November 2000, that Sadiq al-Mahdi had also returned after four years of exile in Egypt. [12a] (p 1) [12b] (p 1) His return was voluntary, reportedly had no pre-conditions attached by the Government, and occurred with the full approval and knowledge of President al-Bashir. [12b] (p 1) [14b] (p 2)

6.191 'Political Parties of the World', published in 2002, stated that "The UP did not contest the December 2000 elections (joining an opposition boycott to protest at the holding of elections while a state of emergency remained in force), nor did it accept an offer of ministerial representation in the Cabinet appointed in February 2001." [8] (p 441) Nevertheless Mahdi did play an active role in the search for a peaceful solution to the ongoing conflict during 2001, travelling abroad to attend meetings organised by various mediators between rival Sudanese factions. [8] (p 441)

6.192 In July 2002, the Canadian Immigration Research Board (IRB) Report referred to a Middle East International article of February 2002, which stated that a representative for al-Mahdi had reportedly signed an agreement with the SPLA. [31a] (p 1) The agreement reportedly maintained that the Government did not seem to be moving swiftly enough in order to put in place the reforms necessary to restore democracy. [31a] (p 1) The IRB Report also referred to a June 2002 article from the Khartoum Monitor in which it was reported that the UP had suspended all dialogue with all political groups in Sudan including the ruling National Congress while it reviewed its own activities and internal arrangements. [31a] (p 1) Although al-Mahdi had reportedly remained in favour of talking with the government, others did not wish to participate in any totalitarian regime. [31a] (p 1)

6.193 The Khartoum Monitor website reported in August 2002 that a faction of the Umma Party, led by Nur Jadayn, which had previously broken away from the main party, had reportedly dissolved. [50] (p 1) The dissolved factions former members joined with the ruling National Congress Party while Jadayn claimed that the Umma party was undemocratic and accused it of plotting against his and his fellow members' religion. [50] (p 1) According to an October 2002 article by 'Facts on File World News Digest', al-Bashir reshuffled his cabinet in August 2002 and included seven politicans from the breakaway faction. [44] The Associated Press reported in December 2002 that "Umma was weakened earlier this year [2002] when el-Mahdi's cousin, Mubarak el-Fadil el-Mahdi, defected to the government ranks." [43a]

6.194 An Agence France Presse (AFP) news report stated that, in May 2003, a senior member of the Umma Party's politburo was arrested and questioned, then released after approximately 24 hours detention. [13b] The security forces had

reportedly suspected him of supporting the SLA uprising in Darfur and of urging student members of the Umma Party to take up arms in support of the rebellion. [13b] Dr. Madibbu, the detainee, denied these accusations referring to them as 'baseless'. [13b]

6.195 The Islamic order Ansar, which is associated with the UP continued to be denied permission to hold large public gatherings during most of 2003. [3a] (p 15) The Umma Party, along with the SPLM/A and DUP, signed the Cairo Declaration on 24 May 2003, which called for Khartoum to be excluded from Shari'a law. [80] The Al-R'ay al-Amm web site reported in November 2003, before the next round of peace talks, that the Ummah Party had announced a meeting with the SPLM with a view to establishing relations. [74b] During late 2003 and early 2004 various news reports covering issues such as the peace process and events in Darfur illustrated the UP's continued political prominence and involvement, although al-Mahdi was still compelled to call for all parties to have greater political involvement in the peace process. [63a] [64a] [65a] [66a] [76] (p 1)

The Sudanese Communist Party (SCP)

6.196 According to sudan.net, "The SCP was formed in 1944 and early established a strong support base in universities and labour unions." [28] (p 3) Although relatively small the SCP was, by 1956, one of the country's best-organised political parties and was one of the few parties that recruited members in both the north and the south. [28] (p 3) [9b] (p 17) The website stated that "The various religiously affiliated parties opposed the SCP, and, consequently, the progression of civilian and military governments alternately banned and courted the party until 1971, when [President] Nimeri accused the SCP of complicity in an abortive military coup." [28] (p 3) This resulted in Nimeri banning the SCP and the imprisonment of several hundred of the party's leading members, a few of which were executed. [9b] (p 17)

6.197 According to the 2001 Danish fact-finding Report "After Nimeri's fall the SCP was reorganised and it won three seats at the parliamentary elections in 1986" and "Since the coup in 1989 the SCP has been behind one of the most effective opposition campaigns against the current regime." [9b] (p 17)

6.198 The Danish fact-finding Report for 2001 stated that the SCP is split into at least two factions led by Mohammad Ibrahim Nogud and Al Khatim Adlan. [9b] (p 17) "Adlan's faction is not a member of the NDA, but both factions of the SCP are banned in Sudan and both are [reportedly] under surveillance by the security forces." [9b] (p 17) A source consulted by the Danish fact-finding mission of November 2001 stated that both factions of the SCP were at risk of persecution and injustice. [9b] (p 17)

6.199 The Akhbar al-Yawm web site reported on 9 October 2003 that Fatimah Ibrahim, one of the the leaders of the SCP and the Sudanese National Movement would return to Sudan on 21 October 2003. [72a] However, it was not until 17 December 2003 that she returned to Khartoum, after an absence of over thirteen years, according to an unattributed report published on the Sudanese Media Centre web site the same day. [66d]

The Ba'ath Party

6.200 According to the Danish fact-finding Report of 2001, "The pan-Arab Baa'th Party (BP) is divided into pro-Syrian and pro-Arab [Iraqi] factions, but members of both factions are [reportedly] at risk of attack." [9b] (p 18) The Baa'th Party reportedly remained committed to unifying Sudan with either Egypt or Libya according to sudan.net as an initial step in the creation of a single nation encompassing all Arabic-speaking countries. [28] (p 3) However, the Baa'th Party's ideological reservations about the regimes in those two countries prohibited active political backing for this goal. [28] (p 3) According to sudan.net, "The Nimeiri and al-Bashir governments alternately tolerated and persecuted the Baa'th." [28] (p 3)

The Popular National Congress Party (PNC)

6.201 The UNHCR's July 2000 Background Paper stated that "In December 1999, President al-Bashir declared a state of emergency and disbanded the National Assembly two days before it was due to vote on a constitutional amendment that would have reduced presidential powers. [7] (p 5) President al-Bashir suspended articles of the constitution, the political activity of Hassan al-Turabi and, in May 2000, he froze all activities of the ruling political party. [7] (p 5) According to Europa's 'Africa South of the Sahara 2003', Hassan al-Turabi launched his own political party called the Popular National Congress Party (PNC) in June 2000. [1] (p 1014)

6.202 Hassan al-Turabi was arrested in February 2001 and later charged with criminal conspiracy, waging war on the state and calling for violent opposition to public authority because he signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the SPLM/A calling for citizens to rise up in 'peaceful popular resistance'. [1] (p 1014) The Special Rapporteur (SR) reported in January 2003 that the PNC faced particular problems in terms of harassment by the authorities and that "Prior to his visit [in 2002], he was informed that some 150 PNC supporters had been arrested all over Sudan at the end of September [2002]." [2] (p 6)

6.203 Hassan al-Turabi and the PNC party signed onto the Cairo Declaration, which called for Khartoum to be made a Shari'a-free capital, on 3 June 2003. [80] In August 2003 it was reported that President al-Bashir ordered the release of 32 political prisoners, 13 of whom were members of the PNC. [12e] [43e] In October 2003 al-Turabi was released and the PNC's offices, which had been occupied by Government forces during most of 2003 were returned to the PNC. [3a] (p 7, 8, 9) [11c] (p 1) [67a] According to the USSD Report for 2003 "Turabi's popular National Congress Party (PNC) was disestablished and continued to be a proscribed political organization." [3a] (p 1)

6.204 It would appear, from various news reports, that al-Turabi swiftly recommenced his poltical activities after his release; conducting interviews, holding meetings and making what could be considered provocative speeches in which he

was openly critical of the ruling National Congress and the peace process. **[65b] [67a] [67b] [67c] [71] [72b] [65c] [73a] [65h]** The Al-R'ay al-Amm web site reported in November 2003 that al-Turabi had had talks with the presidential peace advisor prior to the next round of peace talks. **[74b]**

6.205 In an unattributed article published on the Democratic Unionist Party's web site in Decemeber 2003, it was alleged that al-Turabi had stated that he believed the government was intending to arrest him again. **[67a]** The article reported that the "Sudanese authorities have been leading a massive campaign against PNC elements, and yesterday they broke into PNC HQs, arresting tens of them and accusing them of supporting the rebel movement in the Darfur [western Sudan] states through financial and intellectual support." **[67a]**

6.206 On 30 March 2004, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) reported that "Sudan's authorities have arrested a number of opposition politicians and army officers over a possible plot to overthrow President Omar al-Bashir." **[14h] (p 1)** Over the next few days the BBC reported that military officers and PNC members, including al-Turabi, had been arrested; that the PNC's headquarters were shut down and that the party had been suspended from poltical activity. **[14g] (p 1) [14f] (p 1) [14e] (p 1)**

6.207 According to Sudanese news sources, following the arrests, al-Turabi's supporters quickly refuted the allegations, other opposition parties called for the government to be transparent in its handling of the situation and the government released a statement containing the alleged reasons for the arrests. **[63b] [69a]**

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA)

6.208 'Political Parties of the World', published in 2002, stated that "The NDA was formed after the 1989 military coup as an umbrella organization linking a disparate group of opponents of the Bashir regime." **[8] (p 440)** The Umma Party was a member of the NDA but left it in March 2000, a move greeted with approval by the Government. **[13a]**

6.209 According to the Alliance's own web site "The NDA is composed of the political parties, trade unions and officers of the Legitimate Command of the Sudanese armed forces, the armed factions and independent national personalities which signed the NDA's National Charter of October 1989", minus the UP and with the addition of the SLM in early 2004. **[16a] (p 1) [13a] [67d]** The NDA's website also stated that the number of signatories of the NDA charter reached thirteen parties, fifty-six unions and federations, armed factions and other groupings and national personalities. **[16a] (p 1)** The NDA set up its headquarters outside Sudan in Asmara, the capital city of Eritrea and there were also branch offices in Cairo, Nairobi, Washington and London. **[16a] (p 1)** The Leadership Council of the NDA included the following organisations:

The Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA)
The Sudan's People Liberation Movement (SPLM)
The Union of Sudan African Parties (USAP)
The Sudanese Communist Party (SCP/CPS)
The General Council of the Trade Unions Federation
The Legitimate Command of the Sudanese armed forces
The Beja Congress
The Sudan Alliance Forces (SAF)
The Federal Democratic Alliance (FDA)
The Free Lions Association
The Arab Baa'th Socialist Party
Independent national figures
Representatives of the liberated areas
The Sudanese National Party (SNP). [16a] (p 1)

6.210 The second conference of the NDA held in Massawa, Eritrea, in September 2000, issued its resolutions and organisational recommendations regarding the structure of the NDA. [16a] (p 1) As of 1995 the exiled leader of the DUP, Osman al-Mirghani chaired the NDA, and the NDA's website stated in its report on the organisation's second conference that the Vice Chairman of the Leadership Council was General Fathi Ahmed Ali. [8] (p 440) [16b] (p 1)

6.211 The Congress was to be composed of the representatives of all the parties, unions, military and women's federations, organisations and independent individuals that are members of the NDA and each organisation was to be represented according to the criteria determined by the Leadership Council. [16a] (p 2) [16b] (p 1) The NDA website stated that the conference decided that the Congress should be held once every two years. [16a] (p 2) [16g] (p 2) The purpose of the Congress is the designing, reviewing and evaluation of all the policies and programs of the NDA; the election of the President of the NDA and its leading and executive bodies. [16a] (p 2)

6.212 The second conference decided that the Leadership Council (LC), the NDA's highest political organ when the Congress itself was not in session, would consist of the leaders of the member organisations of the NDA plus a representative of the independent individual members. [16a] (p 2) [16b] (p 1) According to the NDA website "The LC is the supreme political leadership of the NDA that supervises and follows up the implementation of the decisions and directives issued by the conference and those issued by the LC itself." [16a] (p 2) The LC chooses the NDA's Secretary-General, the heads of the various secretariats and makes resolutions, which are taken by consensus and are considered valid if objections do not exceed two members of the LC. [16a] (p 2) "The LC" according to the NDA website "holds regular meetings." [16a] (p 2)

6.213 In 2002, NDA representatives in Sudan were reportedly prevented from travelling outside the country to attend a proposed meeting to discuss the peace process with the Libyan and Egyptian governments. [31i] (p 1) The NDA has launched attacks against government forces in east Sudan and areas under its control have reportedly received US$100 million from the U.S. Government. [31i] (p 1)

6.214 According to Sudanese news sources, the National Democratic Alliance was vocal in its demands for wider political participation in the Machakos peace process in October 2003 and expressed its dissatisfaction with the bilateral deal as it stood in November 2003. [51a] [64b] [66e] However, the Sudan Media Centre web site reported that al-Mirghani had stressed, in October 2003, that the NDA's ties with the SPLM remained firm. [66b] In November 2003, the newspaper Al-Sahafah reported that the NDA deputy, Lieutenant-General Abd al-Rahman Sa'id had stated that the party's leadership of the party was not going to return to Sudan. [65e]

6.215 In February 2004, the DUP and Al-Ra'y al-Amm web sites reported that the Government and the NDA were accusing each other of placing the Jedda Agreement, signed by the government and the DUP in December 2003, in jeopardy. [67d] [74a] The NDA accused the government of deception whilst the government stated that al-Mirghani had taken an inapporpriate step by accepting the SLM/A into the NDA. [67d] [74a]

The Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)

6.216 The DUP was formed in 1968 through the merger of two long-established parties, the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and the National Unionist Party (NUP); it is a largely secularist Islamic centre party and is supported primarily by the Khatmiya Islamic order. [8] (p 440) [1] (p 1008) [35c] (p 1) 'Political Parties of the World' stated that "After the 1989 military coup, the DUP leader, Osman al-Mirghani, went into exile and aligned the DUP with the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), of which he became chairman in 1995." [8] (p 440)

6.217 According to the Report of the 2001 Danish fact-finding mission, the DUP is split into a number of small groups but there are two main factions, Hindi and Mirghani, DUP-Hindi being pro-government and not a member of the NDA. [9b] (p 17) 'Political Parties of the World' attributed the main split to the disagreement within the party over Mirghani's insistence that the DUP should maintain its stance as a party in exile. [8] (p 440) Siddiq al-Hindi returned to Sudan in 1997 to establish a faction of the DUP, sometimes know as the 'DUP General Secretariat' with himself as chairman and, in February 2001, al-Hindi and two other members of his faction accepted ministerial portfolios in the al-Bashir Cabinet. [8] (p 440)

6.218 The DUP stated, in 2002, that its party members continue to suffer oppression by the Government and have cited examples such as travel bans, detentions and the confiscation of land. [31c] (p 1, 2) "Regarding the danger a person faces in Sudan, the Chairman [of the United Kingdom and Ireland branch of the DUP] stated that the level of risk a person faces upon return is normally determined by that person's level of involvement in the party before and after the 1989 coup." [31d] (p 1)

6.219 The Islamic order Khatimia, which is associated with the DUP continued to be denied permission to hold large public gatherings during most of 2003 . [3a] (p 15)

6.220 The Special Rapporteur (SR) stated in January 2003 that members of the DUP in particular continued to be harassed. **[2] (p 6)** In May 2003, the Democratic Unionist Party signed the Cairo Declaration, which called for Khartoum to be exempted from Shari'a law, with the SPLM/A and the UP. **[80]** The Al-R'ay al-Amm web site reported in November 2003 that al-Mirghani had met with a senior government official in Khartoum ahead of the next round of peace talks. **[74b]**

6.221 In December 2003 the Al-Sahafah web site published an unattributed article, which reported that the Government of Sudan and the DUP had signed a reconciliation agreement in Jedda. **[65d]** The agreement reportedly confirmed, among other issues, the freedom of political activity, freedom of expression and a commitment to international laws on human rights. **[65d]** However, in February 2004, the DUP and Al-Ra'y al-Amm web sites reported that the Government and the NDA were accusing each other of placing the Jedda Agreement in jeopardy following the admittance of the SLM/A into the NDA membership by al-Mirghani. **[67d] [74a]** The NDA accused the government of deception whilst the government stated that al-Mirghani had taken an inappropriate step by accepting the SLM/A into the NDA. **[67d] [74a]**

6.222 In April 2004 the Sudanile web site reported that "The deputy secretary-general of [opposition Democratic] Unionist Party, Al-Ustadh [honorific] Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, has denounced the steps the government has taken against the Popular [National] Congress, which is being led by [Dr Hasan Abdallah] al-Turabi, following revelation of a coup attempt in which the government said he was involved." **[51c]**

Beja Congress (BC)

6.223 According to The Beja Cultural and Educational Trust (BECT) website the majority of the Beja were politically affiliated with the (DUP) but the Beja elite was convinced that they were under-represented, not taking their fair share of power and wealth and that government services were being directed to other regions. **[81]** The BECT website stated that "The general presumption [of the Beja people] is that they have been ignored and left alone to struggle with famine, sickness and poverty." **[81]** A meeting of the Beja tribes in Port Sudan in October 1958 took place during which the Beja Congress (BC), as it later became known, was formed. **[81]** The BC was originally created to draw attention to the political and economic grievances of the Beja people. **[81]** The 1964 parliamentary elections were the BC's first real political test in which it scored a landslide victory over the rival political parties in the region. **[81]**

6.224 The BECT website stated that, following the 1989 coup after which all political parties were dissolved, the BC turned to armed struggle and waged several military confrontations with al-Bashir's regime. **[81]**

6.225 Osman Fagarai is a police general and the Secretary General of the Internal Beja Congress. **[3a] (p 7)** The USSD Report for 2003 reported that, in November, the security forces arrested Fagarai and detained him for approximately one month without charges reportedly after he made a statement that was later published in the

local press. [3a] (p 7) The statement claimed that the suffering of the Beja people was worse than that of the people of Darfur and appealed for the Bejas and Darfurians to join together to demand participation in power and wealth sharing, as negotiated with the South. [3a] (p 7)

6.226 In October 2003 the DUP web site published a report in which the Beja Congress warned the SPLM and the Government that, for the peace agreement to work, it must remove all the iniquities against the Sudanese people such as those injustices against the Beja people themselves. [67f] Later in October 2003, the Registrar of organisations and political parties abolished the Beja Congress because of attacks allegedly carried out by the organisation, possibly in conjunction with some SPLA forces, in eastern Sudan. [75] [66c] In November 2003, the DUP web site reported that the Beja Congress had announced that it would continue its military escalation. [67e] Yet, in December 2003, according to Sudan TV, an agreement was signed between the NC and the BC. [69c]

The Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A)

6.227 The SPLM/A was created in 1983, the year the Government tried to impose Shari'a law on the entire country, when John Garang, who was then a Lieutenant Colonel in the Sudan People's Armed Forces (SPAF), was sent to quell an army rebellion by southern troops in Bor. [27] (p 2) [28] (p 2) Rather than ending the mutiny, Garang encouraged other garrisons to rebel and made himself head of the rebel forces opposing the Khartoum Government. [28] (p 2) John Garang is a Christian Dinka who has received military training and studied advanced economics to degree level in the United States. [28] (p 2)

6.228 In 1991 the SPLM broke into two factions, which began fighting one another as well as government forces. [27] (p 3) The SPLM-Mainstream continued to demand regional autonomy while the South Sudan Independence Movement (SSIM) sought full independence for the south. [27] (p 3) According to Peace Pledge Union (PPU) Online "The SPLM greatly strengthened its position in 1995 by joining the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) of northern Sudanese rebels also calling for separation of religion and state and self-determination for the south." [27] (p 3) According to the NDA's website, Dr Mansour Khalid is the SPLM/A's representative in the NDA whilst Dr. John Garang is the representative of the Unified Military Command of the NDA, of which he is also the Commander-in-Chief. [16a] (p 2) [16g] (p 1)

6.229 The SPLM/A has been realigned with Riek Machar's Sudan People's Democratic Front/Defence Force (SPDF), which had formerly split from the SPLM/A, since January 2002. [11b] (p 1) [27] (p 1)

6.230 According to the Danish fact-finding mission Report of 2000, the SPLM/A campaigned for the removal of the NIF regime from power and self-determination for the people of southern Sudan. [9a] (p 18) Any Sudanese national can join the SPLM/A regardless of ethnic origin or religion. [9a] (p 18) "Most of its membership is drawn from three provinces in southern Sudan: Eastern Equatoria, Western Equatoria and Bahr

El Ghazal, but the movement also has members from the Nuba Mountains, the Blue Nile province and to some extent from Darfur. [9a] (p 18)

6.231 A source consulted by the 2000 Danish fact-finding mission explained that all membership applications from new members are investigated to guard against infiltration of the movement and that "A system has been established whereby it is only possible to join on the recommendation of two known existing members." [9a] (p 18) Prospective members are also required to report to an SPLM/A office, where, in addition to identifying themselves, they have to complete a form and be interviewed by people from the SPLM/A. [9a] (p 18)

6.232 Membership is valid for two years, after which time it has to be renewed by applying in person at an SPLM/A office in Sudan or abroad although those who fail to renew their membership still remain registered with the movement. [9a] (p 18) All members are given a registration number, as shown on their membership card, which also contained personal information, the date of the card's issue and expiry and a photograph of the cardholder. [9a] (p 18) The source consulted stated that "The photo used to be affixed manually, but the procedure now used is to scan it into the card. [9a] (p 18)

6.233 The SPLM/A, DUP and the Umma Party signed the Cairo Declaration on 24 May 2003, which called for Khartoum to be exempted from Shari'a law. [80] In November 2003, the Khartoum-based newspaper Al-Sahafah reported that Lam Akol's Sudan People's Liberation Movement- United (SPLM-United) had announced that it was to merge with the mainstream SPLM/A, politically and militarily, under the name of the SPLM. [65g] The Al-R'ay al-Amm web site reported in November 2003, before the next round of peace talks, that the Ummah Party had announced a meeting with the SPLM with a view to establishing relations. [74b] In March 2004, the Suna news agency reported that the Equatoria Defence Force (EDF) had also merged under the name of the SPLM. [49c]

Opposition Political Groups - Darfur

6.234 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that violence in Darfur increased significantly during 2003. [3a] (p 2) The conflict between the SLA and JEM and the nomadic Arab militias and government forces stemmed from allegations that the government neglected the region coupled with ethnic tensions between nomadic Arab pastoralists and the ethnic black sedentary farming communities. [3a] (p 2) The situation has been exacerbated by meagre resources and the Government's support of the nomad militias. [3a] (p 2) The USSD Report stated that "Government-supported militias raided villages in Darfur, driving thousands of refugees from their lands and many over the border into Chad." [3a] (p 2)

6.235 AI's February 2004 Report 'Darfur: "Too many people killed for no reason" outlined in detail the background to the conflict in Darfur and included numerous comprehensive reports of human rights abuses that continued to occur in Darfur. [11k]

These abuses include looting, unlawful killings, arrests and detentions by the SLA and JEM. [11k] Human Rights Watch released a report in April 2004 entitled "Darfur in Flames: Atrocities in Western Sudan" which also cited the abuses committed by all parties to the conflict. [10f]

6.236 Allegations that the Government was responsible for the arrest and subsequent disappearance of persons suspected of supporting rebels in the Darfur region continued in 2003. [3a] (p 3) [3a] (p 5) There were reports that government security forces tortured such persons, including making detainees stand all night in a crowded room and holding a detainee's head under water. [3a] (p 3) [3a] (p 5)

6.237 Security forces continued to detain a number of persons after al-Turabi's release, including many from Darfur, despite al-Bashir's August 2003 promise to release all political detainees as part of peace talks. [3a] (p 7) Some of the numerous persons arrested for suspected support of the rebels in Darfur were tried, convicted and sentenced to death under Special Courts and an indeterminate number of Darfurians remained in detention at the end of 2003. [3a] (p 7)

6.238 According to reports by Amnesty International (AI), the detention of persons who were suspected of supporting or belonging to the SLA or the JEM continued despite the release of most of those arrested prior to September 2003 under the terms of the 2003 ceasefire. [11l - 11s] AI stated that the reason for the some of the arrests, which occurred not only in Darfur but also Khartoum, was not known for certain although they were believed to be due to actual or perceived support of one of the armed opposition groups in Darfur. [11l - 11o] [11s] AI reported that "Those arrested have been held under Article 31 of the National Security Forces Act, which allows detention for up to nine months without access to judicial review." [11o] However, AI also reported that some of those detained were released after approximately one month in detention. [11o] [11p] [11q]

6.239 On 15 December 2003, a ceasefire agreement signed in September 2003 collapsed, leading to an escalation of fighting. [3a] (p 12) The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Reports indicate more than 600,000 civilians had been internally displaced, an estimated 100,000 refugees fled to neighboring Chad, and as many as 3,000 unarmed civilians were killed by year's end [2003]." [3a] (p 12) In December 2003, the Sudanile web site reported that the Government of Sudan had begun legal measures against the leaders of the Darfurian rebels, including charges of terrorism and a demand for them to be pursued by Interpol. [51b]

6.240 A special report, 'Chad and the Darfur conflict', published on 16 February 2004 by IRIN revealed the complexities of the war in the west, which is largely tribal in nature. [15w] The report stated that Chadian nationals are suspected of offering support in a variety of ways to the Sudanese groups to which they are ethnically aligned. [15w] (p 2 - 3) According to the report, Chadian President Idriss Deby, who is a Zaghewa himself and has attempted to mediate between the Government and the rebels, is perceived as biased towards the militarily powerful Khartoum Government. [15w] (p 1 - 2)

6.241 AI and the USSD Report for 2003 reported that members of the sedentary groups in Darfur formed the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) in February 2003 and inaugurated a campaign of attacks against government installations, police barracks, and Khartoum-installed leaders due to what they perceived as a lack of government protection and marginalisation of their region. [11j] (p 1 - 2) [3g] (p 11 - 12) The USSD Report stated that "In parallel, the Government increased its clampdown on local leaders, used military tribunals to try those accused of insurrection, and ramped-up military operations." [3a] (p 12)

6.242 In July 2003 IRIN reported that the SLA had stated that a list of demands had been sent to the Government and that Minni Arkou Minnawi, the Secretary General of the SLA, had said that "We told them [a government delegation] they have to stop the fighting, and after that we can negotiate". [15h] According to IRIN news, there was no independent verification of the SLA's claims that fighting had continued but UN sources stated that Kutum and Teinah had been declared no-go areas. [15h]

6.243 In late August 2003, the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) reported that the Sudanese Organisation Against Torture (SOAT) had brought the arbitrary detention and alleged ill-treatment and torture of twenty-five Sudanese men to the attention of its International Secretariat. [42a] (p 1) The men, all of whom were from the Fur tribe, were reportedly suspected of supporting the SLA and were detained incommunicado. [42a] (p 1)

6.244 The SLA, and the JEM, persisted in its offensives against the army, whilst the Government escalated a counterinsurgency campaign utilizing Arab militias reportedly including some from neighbouring countries who set alight and robbed homes and injured, killed and raped civilians throughout the region. [3a] (p 12) The USSD Report for 2003 asserted that "Reports of attacks by government-supported Arab nomad militias (the "janjaweed"), acting in support of its counterinsurgency campaign, point toward a government-sanctioned policy of targeting ethnic groups represented in the SLA and the JEM." [3a] (p 12)

6.245 The BBC and Sudan Television reported, on 8 April 2004, that the N'djamena agreement, a ceasefire and a protocol on the delivery of humanitarian aid to Darfur, had been signed by the Government, the SLM/A and the JEM, whilst the Republic of Sudan Radio stated that the government claimed to be committed to providing security and necessary needs in Darfur and that those affected by the conflict would be compensated. [14m] [14o] [69j] [70b] The BBC report stated that "Sudan analyst Eva Dadrian from the Africa Analysis newsletter said it will be hard for the government to reign [sic] in the Arab militia – the Janjaweed – which have been leading the attacks on black civilians in Darfur." [14m]

6.246 According to a Sudan Human Rights Organisation (SHRO) press release of 16 April 2004 "Atrocities by Sudanese Soldiers and Janjaweed in Darfur Continue Despite Ceasefire." [61c] The World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) reported in an 'Urgent Campaigns' article of 29 April 2004 that, according to information it had

received, forty-five civilians had reportedly been executed as a result of attacks on villages in Darfur. [42c] "Separately, OMCT has been informed" the same report stated "of the continuing detention in violation of the ceasefire agreement and alleged torture of 14 persons, in Nyala, Darfur, Sudan." [42c] (p 1)

6.247 On 22 April 2004, UNICEF reported on its attempts to provide humanitarian assistance to Darfur and those Darfurians who had fled to Chad and stated that "Meanwhile, civilians in the Darfur region continue to flee their villages which are being burned and looted. The attacks [reportedly] include large-scale killings and abductions." [78c] (p 2) IRIN reported, on 29 April 2004, that "A high-level United Nations mission has arrived in the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, to gather information on the humanitarian conditions in the western region of Darfur." [15z] A BBC news report dated 30 April 2004 stated "Chadian troops have deployed on their border after a clash with Sudan forces." [14p]

Opposition Political Parties - Nuba Mountains

6.248 According to the USSD Report for 2003, allegations that the Government was responsible for the arrest and subsequent disappearance of persons that were suspected of supporting rebels in government-controlled zones in the south and the Nuba Mountains continued during 2003. [3a] (p 3) The USSD Report also stated that "During the year [2003], there was a decrease in the number of political and other killings reportedly committed by rebel forces in areas of active conflict, such as the Nuba Mountains and northern Bahr el-Ghazal during the year; however, details generally were unavailable." [3a] (p 3)

6.249 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) reported that, in May 2003, security forces arrested Jum'a Omer Alnur, a tailor and political activist in Dongola, in the north. [3a] (p 3) "He and five other men, all Nubans, were subjected to torture while in custody. Alnur was reportedly tortured with a water pipe, electric wire, and acid. On June 26, he slipped into a coma after being admitted to Khartoum hospital. Awad Ibrahim Gawar, another of the men, died after 24 hours in custody; no medical assessment was made after his death. By year's end, the Government had not taken any action in response to the incidents." [3a] (p 3)

6.250 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "In June 2003, the Government prevented members of the Nuba Women's Ru'ya Association from travelling to a conference in Nuba and the Government later occupied their offices in Khartoum, which remained closed at the end of 2003." [3a] (p 17, 9)

Refugees and Asylum Seekers

6.251 According to the USSD Report for 2003 **"**The law provides for the granting of asylum and refugee status to persons who meet the definition of the 1951 U. N. Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees or its 1967." [3a] (p 18) The Government

reportedly co-operated with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian assistance organisations and generally treated refugees well. **[3a] (p 18)** Although there were reports of the forced return of refugees, the Government did generally grant asylum and protected refugees against refoulement. **[3a] (p 18)**

6.252 In 2003, the UNHCR estimated 327,000 refugees in Sudan consisted primarily of persons from Eritrea (approximately 300,000), Ethiopia (12,600 - 13,600), Chad, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Somalia. **[3a] (p 18, 19)** The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Approximately 150,000 refugees were in camps, and the rest were scattered in urban areas throughout the country." **[3a] (p 18)**

6.253 By the end of 2003, 106,000 Eritrean refugees had been returned since the 2000 agreement between the Eritrean and Sudanese Governments and since 2001, more than 12,000 pre-1991 Ethiopian refugees had chosen to return with the help of the UNHCR. **[3a] (p 18 - 19)**. Fighting along the Eritrea-Sudan border between Government forces and the NDA slowed the repatriation of long-term Eritrean refugees, although most who lived near the border had reportedly returned voluntarily. **[3a] (p 18)**

6.254 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "In February [2003], the UNHCR reported a number of Ethiopians arrested in citywide sweeps." **[3a] (p 18)** According to government officials, the Ethiopians had lost their refugee status but they were subsequently released from prison and allowed to remain in the country. **[3a] (p 18)** During 2003, government authorities claimed that Eritreans who had been arrested, fined and deported during 2002 for alleged conspiracy with the Government of Eritrea were actually deported because they no longer qualified as refugees. **[3a] (p 18)**

6.255 There were some reports of the mistreatment of refugees by Government officials, including beatings and arbitrary arrests and refugees cannot become resident aliens or citizens regardless of their length of stay in the country. **[3a] (p 18)** Nevertheless, the Government has allowed a large number of refugees to work. **[3a] (p 18)**

6.256 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "There were continuing unconfirmed reports that the SPLA forcibly recruited Sudanese refugees in northern Uganda for service in their forces." **[3a] (p 25)**

6.C   HUMAN RIGHTS: OTHER ISSUES

Treatment on Return of Rejected Asylum Seekers

6.257 The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported in November 2003 that there were more than 570,000 Sudanese refugees residing in neighboring countries, largely due to the conflict in the south. **[84] (p 1) [3a] (p 18)** The largest number, 223,079, were located in Uganda, and at the end of 2003 there were approximately 100,000 refugees in Chad from Darfur. **[3a] (p 18)** The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Refugees were also present in Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Kenya." **[3a] (p 18)**

6.258 According to the report of a Danish fact-finding mission to Khartoum in 2001, in general, returning Sudanese nationals, including asylum seekers, with proper travel documentation encounter no difficulties when they return to Sudan although those returning on temporary travel documentation would be questioned about their circumstances. **[9b] (p 55)**

6.259 A Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) letter dated 5 June 2002 confirmed that there was no written decree in force, which stated that returning asylum seekers will be arrested, and suffer ill-treatment, upon arrival in Sudan. **[25d]** A source consulted by the Danish fact-finding mission in 2001 concurred, stating that she was not aware of such a decree's existence. **[9b] (p 55)** The FCO letter went on to state "In fact, there is a general feeling that the government of Sudan is encouraging refugees, immigrants, asylum seekers and opposition members to come back home." **[25d]**

6.260 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "There were reports that a number of refugees and displaced persons voluntarily returned to the country during the year, particularly to the Nuba Mountains region." **[3a] (p 18)**

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

6.261 The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' provided details on specific cases involving the harassment of NGO workers during 2003. **[61] (p 13, 15)**

Sudanese Human Rights Groups and Humanitarian Organisations

6.262 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "Due to government restrictions, there were only two independent domestic human rights group[s]--the Sudan Human Rights Group (SHRG) and the Sudan Human Rights Organisation (SHRO)." **[3a] (p 19)** "There were also two local NGOs that address health concerns related to the practice of female genital mutilation and other 'traditional' practices." **[3a] (p 19)** The USSD Report stated that the workers of local human rights nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) were regularly harassed and arrested, and that "The Government was uncooperative with and unresponsive to human rights groups, and did not meet with them during the year [2003]." **[3a] (p 2, 19)**

6.263 The Special Rapporteur (SR) reported in January 2003 that a network of NGOs had been established which helped to coordinate their work with the organisation of seminars on human rights. **[2] (p 8)** Although individual NGOs continued to be harassed, the SR stated that the network itself had not been. **[2] (p 8)**

6.264 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that, "Unlike in the previous year, there were no reports of government attacks on NGOs during the year [2003]." **[3a] (p 19)** It was reported that access to conflict areas in the south improved but the Government restricted the access of international humanitarian organisations to the Darfur region where rebels reportedly abducted NGO workers. **[3a] (p 20)**

6.265 Human Rights Watch reported in March 2004 that the Sudanese government had arbitrarily detained two human rights activists, one in December 2003 and one in February 2004, reportedly because of their work in the embattled region of Darfur. **[10k] (p 1)** The former, Dr Mudawi Ibrahim Adam, was the director of the Sudan Social Development Organisation (SUDO) and had been engaged in supplying assistance to internally displaced persons. **[10k] (p 1)** Whereas Saleh Mahmud, a member of the lawyers' network of the Sudan Organisation Against Torture (SOAT), was a human rights lawyer providing free legal assistance to those accused or convicted of crimes without fair trial in Nyala. **[10k] (p 1)**

National Alliance for the Restoration of Democracy (NARD)

6.266 According to the National Alliance's own web site "The National Alliance for Restoration of Democracy is a group of individuals who strive to encourage human rights in Sudan. The[y] are non-partisan and support and cooperate with anyone who abides by human rights and any government that strives to protect human rights. The manifesto of the group can be found in the international human rights instruments to which the government of Sudan has become party." **[82]**

6.267 On 19 June 2003, security officers arrested Ghazi Suleiman, the Sudan Human Rights Group chairman and leader of the National Alliance for the Restoration of Democracy (NARD) political party and thirty-six political activists who were meeting at Suleiman's home. **[3a] (p 19)** According to the USSD Report for 2003 "The 36 were released after a few hours [but] Suleiman was detained for 2 days." **[3a] (p 19)** Following his involvement in the "Khartoum Declaration", "a statement by political activists and civil society representatives on the peace process," Ghazi Suleiman was arrested again in July 2003. **[3a] (p 19)** The following day two more of the Declaration's signatories were arrested and, although released, they were told to report to the offices of the National Security Forces daily. **[11g] (p 1)** The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "Suleiman was again arrested, and detained for 15 days without charges." **[3a] (p 19)**

International Human Rights Groups and Humanitarian Organisations

6.268 According to the USSD Report for 2003, "Foreigners needed permits for domestic travel outside Khartoum, which often were difficult to obtain and sometimes refused." **[3a] (p 17)** Foreigners are reportedly required to register with the police on entering the country, must seek permission to move location and re-register at each new location within 3 days of arrival. **[3a] (p 17)** "Foreign NGO staffs at times had problems obtaining entry visas as well as work or travel permits once they had entered the country." **[3a] (p 17)**

6.269 The USSD Report reported that as of September 2003, restrictions on air travel to some areas - Damazin, Dongala, Halfa, Kadugli, Juba, Kassala, Malakal, Port Sudan and Wau - were eased for diplomats. **[3a] (p 17)** However, other restrictions remained regarding land travel to and around these towns and other areas, including

the Darfur regions, still required the issuance of written travel permits during 2003. **[3a] (p 17)**

6.270 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that southern rebel movements required that foreign NGO personnel obtained their permission before travelling to areas they controlled, and permission was generally granted. **[3a] (p 18)** The USSD Report also stated that "NGO workers who have worked in government-held territory [reportedly] encountered problems receiving permission to work or travel in insurgent-held territory." **[3a] (p 18)**

Journalists

6.271 The USSD Report for 2003, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) and Reporteurs Sans Frontieres (RSF) all reported on numerous incidents of varying levels of censor and harassment, including the imprisonment of the editor of the daily 'Al-Sahafa' during 2003 and early 2004. **[3a] (p 13 - 14) [32a] (p 1, 2) [33a - g]**

6.272 The CPJ, RSF and FH reported that The Khartoum Monitor was subject to censor throughout 2003, including in the months after President al-Bashir's announcement. **[32a] (1, 2) [33c] (p 1, 2) [54a] (p 140) [54b] (p 71)** According to RSF, The Khartoum Monitor's reappearance, after it had been shut down in July 2003, was finally authorised in October 2003. **[33c] (p 1)** Other newspapers to suffer similar harassment were Al-Horreya, Al-Sharie al-Syassi and Assahafa, Al-Azminah, Alwan and Al-Ayam. **[54b] (p 71) [33a] (p 1) [33b] (p 1) [33d] (p 1) [3a] (p 13 - 14)**

6.273 The USSD Report for 2003, CPJ and RSF reported on the arrest and torture of a correspondent for the daily paper As Sahafa in Nyala, in May 2003. **[3a] (p13) [32a] (p 2) [33a] (p 1)** The CPJ also reported on the overnight detention of Nhial Bol, editor of The Khartoum Monitor, for failing to pay a 1 million Sudanese pound fine imposed for "inciting hatred" in an article that "alleged[ly] (sic) misquoted the Koran." **[32a] (p 2)**

6.274 On 18 December 2003, RSF reported on the seizure of equipment by the security services from Al-Jazeera television in Khartoum. The following day [19 December 2003], according to RSF, the police closed the Khartoum bureau of the satellite TV news network and detained bureau chief Islam Salih for three hours. **[33e] [33f]** The confiscation, closure and detention all occurred despite the Presidential decree of 12 August 2003 in which al-Bashir had announced the lifting of press censorship in Sudan. **[33e] [33f] [12d] (p 1) [26b] (p 1)** According to RSF, Islam Salih was later fined 1 million Sudanese pounds, sentenced to one month in prison but released on 25 April 2004 after serving only half of his sentence. **[33h] (p 1)**

6.275 The Sudan Human Rights Organisation's Report (SHRO) on 'The Situation of Human Rights in Sudan, 2003' also provided details on specific cases involving the restriction of freedom of expression and the media during 2003. **[61] (p 4 -5, 7 - 11, 13)**

See Section 6.A: Freedom of Speech and the Media

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

6.276 According to the Global IDP Project's 'Profile of Internal Displacement - Summary' Sudan has an estimated four million displaced persons in a country of approximately 30 million persons. [83] (p 8) [3a] (p 1, 9). AI reported that "Tens of thousands of Sudanese were displaced [in 2002] and faced hunger as relief supplies were frequently cut or disrupted." [11b] (p 1) While not all internal movement has been a result of the various conflicts - for instance, traditional nomadic patterns and movement relating to people searching for emergency assistance due to sustained drought and other natural calamities occurred - the Global IDP Project reported that direct attacks on civilians were the main reason that forced people to flee. [83] (p 8)

6.277 Regional IDP figures, which are estimates from available information:

Region/Area	Number of IDPs
Khartoum State	1.8 - 2 million
SPLM/A territories	1.7 million
Southern areas under governmental control	300,000
Darfur	600,000 - 750,000
Eastern and Central 'transitional zone'	500,000
Living in camps	700,000

[83] (p 8, p 54) [3a] (p 9, 18)

6.278 The Special Rapporteur (SR) reported in January 2003 that the situation of IDPs in Sudan remained an area of concern. [2] (p 10) According to some sources consulted by the SR in 2002, IDPs from Unity State particularly faced problems because a pro-government militia had reportedly been given the power to arrest Nuer, detain them in Khartoum and to forcibly recruit them to be sent to the war zones. [2] (p 10)

6.279 According to the Global IDP Project's 'Profile of Internal Displacement - Summary' the internal displacement of civilian populations has continued in Sudan, despite the October 2002 ceasefire. [83] (p 9) The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) reported in its Annual Report for 2002 that, despite renewed afforts at reviving peace initiatives aimed at ending the civil war "Civilian casualties were high and thousands of people were forced to flee their homes" as the internal conflict continued. [58d] (p 52)

6.280 Global IDP also raised the worsening situation in Darfur as a particular area of concern and pointed to the continuing difficulties faced by civilians in other areas of Sudan that have been overshadowed by Darfur and the ongoing peace process. [83] (p 9 - 10) There have been reports of clashes, gross human rights abuses and attacks on civilians in areas as widespread as Darfur in the west, Kassala in the east and in the central/southern oil-producing areas. [83] (p 9, 10)

6.281 Despite a number of positive developments in 2003 which facilitated the

provision of humanitarian assistance to up to one million previously inaccessible people, the persistent forcible displacement of tens of thousands of southerners with no real resettlement options during 2003 marked a deterioration of the Government's treatment of displaced persons. **[83] (p 11) [3a] (p 18)** Ongoing conflicts continued to prevent access to areas lying outside the mandate of Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) in particular and the heightened insecurity in such areas has led to prevention of humanitarian assistance reaching IDPs, not least because of attacks on humanitarian workers. **[83] (p 11)**

6.282 The ICRC's Annual Report for 2002 claimed that the organisation had secured water resources for 55,000 IDPs in 2002. **[58d] (p 104)** The ICRC and the Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC) launched an emergency relief operation in early October 2003 aimed at providing safe drinking water, food, shelter and other essential items to the displaced people of Darfur. **[58c]**

See Section 6.C: Non-Governmental Organisations

6.283 The USSD Report for 2003 stated that "Tens of thousands of persons, largely southerners and westerners displaced by famine and civil war, continued to live in squatter slums in the Khartoum area." **[3a] (p 18)** A September 2003 Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) Report stated sources referred to camps called Jeble Aulia, Mayo Farm, Wad El Bashir and Omdurman El Salaam, which were located close to Khartoum. **[31f] (p 1)**

6.284 In 2002, the Khartoum State government had announced plans to improve conditions in some camps and planned a new settlement area. **[3a] (p 18)** Nevertheless, this encouraging initiative by the government was devalued by the way in which the authorities demolished the homes of 13,000 displaced families without providing them with temporary residences or enough new plots for all those left homeless. **[83] (p 11)**

6.285 According to the Global IDP Project "One third of the households have received a new plot but only a few could afford to start re-building their houses." **[83] (p 11)** The USSD Report for 2003 stated that, in October 2003, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) reported that the Government extorted large sums of money from those due to be relocated in order for them to move to a home, and thousands who were left homeless were forced to forego education and work while they waited to be relocated. **[3a] (p 18)**

6.286 The USSD Report for 2003 reported that "The Federal Ministry for Humanitarian Affairs (FMHA) was created during the year to guide NGO activities for IDPs although it is not yet clear that the ministry's contribution will be a positive one." **[3a] (p 18)** According to the Global IDP Project, IDP policy was drafted during 2002 in SPLM/A-controlled areas with the facilitation of the United Nations (UN) and Brookings-SAIS (School of Advanced International Studies). **[83] (p 12)**

Returning IDPs

6.287 Despite ongoing fighting in some areas, the return of displaced populations into areas of origin that were severely affected by the war and lacking basic services increased due to the improved security in the south, as effected by the ceasefires. **[83] (p 10, 11) [3a] (p 18)** According to the USSD Report for 2003 "There were reports that a number of refugees and displaced persons voluntarily returned to the country during the year, particularly to the Nuba Mountains region." **[3a] (p 18)** The ICRC reported in December 2003 and January 2004 on the successful return of a total of fifty-three children aged between three and seventeen years of age and two elderly women to their families in Raja and Wau. **[58a] [58b]**

6.288 The IDP Global Project reported in March 2004 that "Hundreds of thousands of IDPs have already started their journey back home, and in the event of peace the UN estimates that about one million internally displaced people will likely return, along with half a million refugees." **[83] (p 10)** The USSD Report for 2003 reported on the conditions in the Nuba Mountains region that had continued improving since the Joint Military Commission monitored ceasefire was agreed in 2002, resulting in IDPs beginning to return during 2003. **[3a] (p 11)**

For a more detailed analysis of the IDP situation in Sudan, consult the full Global IDP Project 'Profile of Internal Displacement: Sudan' published 15 March 2004. **[83]**

7 ANNEXES

ANNEX A

CHRONOLOGY [1][14n]

March 1989 - Al-Mahdi agreed to form a new broad-based government, which would begin peace negotiations with the SPLM. Despite 30 political parties and 17 trade unions endorsing the DUP-SPLM agreement, the NIF refused to endorse the agreement and were excluded from the new government. **[1]**

June 1989 - Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan Ahmed al-Bashir assumed power after a bloodless coup. A 15-member Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation (RCC) was formed. Al-Bashir rapidly dismantled the civilian ruling apparatus. Civilian newspapers were closed, political parties were banned and a state of emergency declared. 30 members of the former government were detained. **[1]**

August 1991 - Late August saw a split in the SPLA. The new faction was favoured by the Nuer people, whilst the Dinka still supported Garang. **[1]**

November 1991 - Fierce fighting was reported between the two SPLA factions, with several thousand civilians massacred before a ceasefire is negotiated. At the end of the month, the Government announced a one-month amnesty for rebels wishing to surrender. **[1]**

February 1992 - A 300-member transitional National Assembly was created, comprised of members of the RCC, state governors, and army and police representatives, former DUP and UP members and former aides to Nimeri. [1]

May 1992 - OAU sponsored peace negotiations in Abuja attended by Garang, Lam Akol and the Government. The Government refused to hold a referendum on self-determination for the south. All parties agreed to continue negotiations. [1]

July 1993 - The SPLA under Garang launched a major offensive after alleging government forces aided by other SPLA factions had attacked it. A Government reshuffle strengthened the NIF's position. [1]

August 1993 - The Government launched its own offensive attacking SPLA-held towns near the Ugandan border. Government forces reportedly threatened the Nuba people in central Sudan. The US placed Sudan on its list of countries supporting terrorism on 18 August. [1]

October 1993 - The RCC was disbanded having appointed al-Bashir as President and head of a new civilian administration. [1]

January 1994 - The two principal rival factions of the SPLA agreed to a ceasefire. Government forces were reported to have launched another offensive. Thousands of civilians fled to Uganda. [1]

February 1994 - Sudan was redivided into 26 states instead of nine. The executive and legislative power of the states was expanded. Southern states expected to be exempt from Shari'a law. [1]

June 1994 - Sadiq al-Mahdi was arrested for allegedly plotting to overthrow the Government. No charges were brought against him. [1]

July 1994 - Sadiq al-Mahdi was released on 3 July. The Government announced a unilateral ceasefire and Garang's faction of the SPLA responded with a ceasefire declaration. [1]

March 1995 - Col. Garang announced that the faction under his command had joined forces with rebel groups in the north, under the title of the New Sudan Brigade. Former US President Jimmy Carter had reportedly persuaded the Government to declare a unilateral ceasefire for two months. The SPLA and SSIM responded by declaring ceasefires of their own. [1]

May 1995 - The Government extended its ceasefire for a further two months, however government violations of the ceasefire were reported. In mid-May Sadiq al-Mahdi was again arrested. [1]

June 1995 - The NDA, including the SPLA, DUP, UP and SCP held a conference in Asmara and announced plans for self-determination once the al-Bashir regime is ousted. [1]

August 1995 - Some political prisoners including Sadiq al-Mahdi were released. [1]

January 1996 - US withdrew their diplomatic personnel from Sudan amid fears for their safety. Prior to their withdrawal, the UN Security Council had unanimously adopted Resolution 1044, accusing Sudan of supporting terrorism, and condemning Sudan's role in the assassination attempt on President Mubarak. The resolution also demanded the extradition of three individuals implicated in the incident. [1]

March 1996 - First legislative and presidential elections since 1989 took place on 6 and 17 March. Opposition groups did not field candidates and al-Bashir returned for further 5-year term. Dr al-Turabi (NIF) elected speaker of the National Assembly. [1]

May 1996 - A second faction of the SPLA concluded a peace agreement with the Government. [1]

December 1996 - Sadiq al-Mahdi fled the country to Eritrea, several members of the Ansar order were detained. [1]

January 1997 - 249 prisoners were released. Rebel forces made considerable gains and lectures at Khartoum University were suspended to allow students to join the PDF. [1]

March 1997 - Opposition forces made substantial gains capturing the garrison town of Yei. At the end of the month, Garang stated that he had control of the whole of White Nile and Western Equatoria. [1]

April 1997 - The southern factions who had signed the peace charter in early 1996 finalised and signed the Peace Accord. The signatories were the SSIM, SPLA-Bahr Al-Ghazal faction, Union of Sudan African Parties, Bor Independence Group and Equatoria Defence Force. The SPLA-Nuba Mountains faction under Muhammad Kafi signed a separate agreement. The SSIM forces started reinforcing the government garrison at Juba. Some political detainees held since early 1997 began to be released. [1]

October 1997- Peace talks under the auspice of the IGADD opened in Nairobi on 29 October. [1]

May 1998 - Voting took place between 1 and 20 May in a referendum on the new constitution, results were expected at the end of June. [1]

August 1998 - On 8 August, the US closed its embassy. On 20 August, the US launched an attack on the Shifa factory in Sudan. Leonardo Franco was appointed UN Special Rapporteur for Sudan, to replace Gaspar Biro, who had resigned in April

1998. [1]

January 1999 -The National Democratic Alliance held a mass political rally on 1 January in Omdurman. The Political Association Act came into effect. At least 30 people were killed in tribal clashes between the Massaleit and a group of nomads. The ceasefire was renewed for a further 3 months on 15 January. The Sudan Alliance Forces claimed to have killed 53 soldiers in fighting from 17-28 January. 147 rebels were killed in fighting with government troops at Buny in the southern Blue Nile region on 28 January. The voting age was changed from 18 to 17. [1]

July 1999 - On 4 July, the national currency was changed to the Dinar. [1]

October 1999 - On 10 October, Sudan's ruling National Congress elected President Bashir as its president and as its candidate for the 2001 presidential elections. Hassan al-Turabi was re-elected as Secretary General and also as Parliament speaker. [1]

November 1999 - On 26 November, the Sudanese government and the opposition Umma Party signed a peace accord, which was criticised by the Sudan People's Liberation Army and the National Democratic Alliance. [1]

December 1999 - On 12 December, President al-Bashir dissolved Parliament and declared a three-month state of emergency, which he said was to preserve the unity of the country. Emergency laws took effect on 13 December with the promise of presidential decrees to follow. [1]

January 2000 - President Bashir appointed a new government, shortly after reaching agreement with his rival, Islamist Hassan al-Turabi, on proposals to end their power struggle. In the reshuffle, the four key ministers kept their posts. Most of the ministers who retained their portfolios were Bashir's allies, as were five who were re-shuffled and at least five of the ten newcomers. [1]

February 2000 - Talks between the government and the rebels failed to make any progress. Government air force planes attacked a school in the rebel-held part of the Nuba Mountains. [1]

March 2000 - The Umma Party withdrew from the exiled National Democratic Alliance opposition coalition during a meeting of NDA leaders in Asmara. The Government extended the state of emergency until the end of 2000. [1]

April 2000 - Exiled leaders of the Umma Party returned to Sudan. Fighting between the SPLA forces and government forces continued. [1]

May 2000 - Tensions between Hassan al-Turabi and President al-Bashir increased as al-Turabi was suspended as Secretary General of the National Congress. Fighting between Ethiopian and Eritrean troops forced over 30,000 Eritrean refugees to cross into Sudan's eastern district of Kasala. [1]

June 2000 - Fighting between Government forces and rebel forces in the region close to the oil fields was reported. Hassan al-Turabi was removed from the position of Secretary General of the National Congress Party and formed new political party called the Popular National Congress. [1]

September 2000 - Women were banned from working in public places involving contact with men in Khartoum State leading to protest riots. Student riots occurred throughout Sudan in protest against renewed military conscription and economic hardship. Continued reports of fighting between rebel forces and Government forces. Peace talks were held between rebel groups and government representatives. [1]

November 2000 - Sadiq al-Mahdi returned to Sudan after spending several years in exile. [1]

December 2000 - Presidential and Parliamentary Elections took place from 13 to 22 December. Sudan's National Elections Authority (NEA) declared President al-Bashir the winner of the Presidential Election, which had four other candidates. President al-Bashir won 86.5% of the votes while runner-up Ga'afar Nimeri won 9.6% of the votes. Sudan's ruling National Congress won 355 out of the 360 National Assembly seats in the country's Parliamentary Election.The five other seats were won by independent candidates. President al-Bashir extended the state of emergency in Sudan for another year. [1]

February 2001 - On 12 February, President al-Bashir was sworn in as President of Sudan for his second term of office. Hassan al-Turabi, leader of the Popular National Congress Party (PNCP) and senior members of the PNCP were arrested following allegations that the party was developing links with the SPLA. [1]

September 2001 - The United Nations Security Council lifted the diplomatic sanctions that were imposed against Sudan in April 1996. The senior members of the PNCP who were arrested in February were released from custody but al-Turabi remained under "house arrest". [1]

January 2002 - Military ceasefire between the SPLA and government forces became effective for six months in the Nuba Mountains. [1]

June 2002 - The ceasefire in the Nuba Mountains region was extended for another six months. [1]

July 2002 - The Government and the SPLM/A signed a peace deal after five weeks of talks. The peace deal included agreement on the separation of state and religion as well as self-determination for the southern Sudanese. Opposition political parties cautiously approved of the peace deal but no agreement was reached regarding a ceasefire. [1]

August/September 2002 - Fighting broke out between the SPLA and government forces in the south. The Government responded by suspending peace talks with the SPLM/A. [1]

October 2002 - The Government and the SPLM/A sign a MOU agreeing to resume talks and to implement a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the talks. The peace talks resumed. [1]

November 2002 - The 'cessation of hostilities' agreement was extended until the end of March 2003. A MOU was signed on 'Aspects of Structures of Government'. The peace talks were adjourned until January 2003. [1]

December 2002 - Sudan's parliament approved the extension of the state of emergency for another year. [1]

January 2003 - The peace talks between the Government and the SPLM/A resumed in Nairobi. The Nuba Mountains ceasefire was renewed for a further six months until July 2003. [1]

February 2003 - Members of the Fur, Zaghewa and Massaleit tribes in Darfur State form the SLM/A. [1] The JEM, another armed group with similar aims and ethnic membership, appeared to emerge in the region at around the same time. [15v] (p 1)

April 2003 - President Bashir and John Garang met for the second time in 20 years of conflict at the peace talks. [14n] (p 4) The Government and SPLM/A announced that they expected to reach a final agreement by June 2003. [1]

August 2003 - The continuing peace talks were adjourned until 10 September to allow for further consultation. [1]

September 2003 - The Government and the SPLM/A signed an agreement allowing for the integration of troops in some disputed areas. [14n] (p 4) The Government and the SLM/A signed a 45-day ceasefire in Darfur State. [1]

October 2003 - The PNC leader, al-Turabi, was released after nearly three years in detention and the ban on his party was lifted. [14n] (p 4)

December 2003 - The Government and rebels agree to share oil wealth. [14n] (p 4)

January 2004 - The Government and SPLM/A agree to share non-oil wealth. [14n] (p 4) The Army moves to quell rebel uprising in western region of Darfur causing more than 100,000 people to seek refuge in neighbouring Chad. [14n] (p 4)

March 2004 - UN official said pro-government Arab militias were carrying out systematic killings of African villagers in Darfur. [14n] (p 4)Army officers and opposition politicians, including Islamist leader Hassan al-Turabi, were arrested over an alleged coup plot. [14n] (p 4)

For a detailed history, including Sudanese history prior to 1989, refer to Europa's 'Africa South of the Sahara - 2004'. [1]

ANNEX B

LIST OF THE MAIN POLITICAL PARTIES [1] [3a] [9b] [11c] [11t] [14e - 14g] [15n] [15q] [15t] [15u] [15v] [49a] [67a]

Alliance of the People's Working Forces
Based in Khartoum. The leader is Gaafar Muhammad Nimeri. The acting Secretary General is Kamal ad-Din Muhammad Abdullah. [1]

Democratic Unionist Party (DUP/DUP-Mirghani)
Based in Khartoum. Leader - Mohammad Osman (Uthman) al-Mirghani. Conservative in political outlook. Formed in the late 1960s by a merger between the National Unionist Party and the People's Democratic Party. DUP has its base in the muslim Khatmiyyah sect. DUP is one of the founder members of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) opposition umbrella group. [1]

Democratic Unionist Party (DUP/DUP-Hindi) - (registered) [49a]
Splinter group from Mirghani's DUP, pro-Government and not a member of the NDA. [9b]

Free Sudanese National Party (FSNP)
Based in Khartoum. Chairman - Philip Abbas Ghabbush. [1]

Independent Democrats
Based in Khartoum. Leader - As-Samawitt Husayn Osman Mansur. [1]

Islamic-Christian Solidarity
Based in Khartoum. Founder - Hatim Abdullah az-Zaki Husayn. [1]

Islamic Revival Movement
Based in Khartoum. Founder - Siddiq al-Haj as-Siddiq. [1]

Islamic Socialist Party
Based in Khartoum. Leader - Salah al-Musbah. [1]

Islamic Ummah Party (IUP) - (registered) [49a]
Officially registered as a political party on 13 April 1999. Leader - Wali al-Din al-Hadi al-Mahdi. Despite the similar name, this party is completely separate and independent of the Umma Party led by Sadiq al-Mahdi. The IUP is allied with the Government. [1]

Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) [15v]
Darfurian-based political movement/rebel group that apparently emerged in March

2003. [15v] The JEM is allegedly linked to the Popular National Congress (PNC). [11t]

Justice Party
Based in Khartoum. Formed in 2002 by former members of the National Congress, including Dr. Lam Akol. [1]

Moderate Trend Party
Based in Khartoum. Leader - Mahmud Jiha. [1]

National Democratic Party
Based in Khartoum. Formed in 2002 following merger of the Union of Nationalistic Forces, the Communist Party and the National Solidarity Party. [1]

Nile Valley Conference
Based in Khartoum. Founder Lt-Gen. (ret.) Umar Zaruq. [1]

Popular Masses' Alliance
Based in Khartoum. Founder - Faysal Muhmad Husayn. [1]

Popular National Congress Party (also referred to as the People's National Congress Party)
Founded by Hassan al-Turabi, the current leader, in June 2000 after his expulsion from the ruling National Congress. Al-Turabi was detained on 21 February 2001 and finally released in October 2003. [1] [3a] [11c] [67a] Al-Turabi and other members of the PNC were arrested in late March/early April 2004. [14e - 14g]

Socialist Popular Party
Based in Khartoum. Founder - Sayyid Khalifah Idris Habbani. [1]

Sudanese Central Movement
Based in Khartoum. Founder - Dr Muhammad Abu al-Qasim Haj Hamad. [1]

Sudanese Communist Party
Formed in 1946. Periodical - Al-Midan. [48] Split into at least two factions led respectively by Mohammad Ibrahim Nogud and Al Khatim Adlan. Both factions are banned in Sudan and are under surveillance by the security forces. The SCP has traditionally found its support amongst students and trade unionists. The SCP had support in both southern and northern Sudan and was opposed to the religiously based parties such as the DUP and UP. [9b]

Sudanese Green Party
Based in Khartoum. Founder - Prof. Zakaraia Bashir Imam. [1]

Sudanese Initiative Party
Based in Khartoum. Leader - J'afar Karar. [1]

Sudanese Liberation Movement/Army

Formed in February/March 2003 from a secessionist group known as the Darfur Liberation Front (DLF) by Darfurian groups, particularly the Fur, Zaghawa and Massaleit, to fight against what they perceived to be "marginalisation, racial discrimination and exploitation" in their region. [15n] The movement's stated aim was to create a united democratic Sudan on the foundation of equality and decentralisation of power. [15t] [15q]

Sudanese National Party (SNP)
Based in Khartoum. Leader - Hasan al-Mahi - participates in NDA. The SNP is apparently officially recognised owing to its announced support of the constitution and laws regarding party formation. During an All Nuba Conference held in Kauda, Nuba Mountains, the SNP, FSNP and Sudan National Party-Collective Leadership reportedly agreed to dissolve individually and then merge as one new party called the United Sudan National Party (USNP). [31h]

Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)
Formed in 1983. [48] Opposition political movement for southern Sudanese people. The SPLM want self-determination for the southern Sudanese and a secular and democratic Sudanese government. Leader - John Garang. Member organisation of the NDA. [1]

Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA)
Formed in 1983. [48] Military wing of the SPLM. Leader - John Garang. The SPLA was created as the armed wing of the SPLM at the start of the civil war. The majority of SPLA members are from the Dinka ethnic group. They claim to be fighting for a secular and democratic Sudan but not for full independence for southern Sudan from northern Sudan. Member organisation of the NDA. [1]

Umma Party (UP/"mainstream UP")
Mahdist party based on the Koran and Islamic traditions based in the Ansar Muslim sect. Chairman - Dr Umar Nurad Ad-Da'im. Leader - Sadiq al-Mahdi. The party was a member of the NDA until March 2000 when it withdrew its membership. Sadiq al-Mahdi returned to Sudan in November 2000 after being in exile. There is reportedly internal conflict due to the party's conciliation agreement of 1999 and continued co-coperation with the Government. [9b]

Umma Party (registered) [49a]
Breakaway faction, which was later dissolved in August 2002 by its chairman, Nur Jadayn, in order to join the ruling National Congress Party. [50]

United Democratic Salvation Front (USDF)
Based in Khartoum. Political wing of the Sudan People's Defence Force. Leader - Riek Mashar Teny-Dhurgon.

National Democratic Allicance (NDA)
Formed in 1989. Periodical - Al-Fajr. [48] Asmara-based organisation. Chair - Osman al-Mirghani; Secretary General - Joseph Okelu. The opposition movements that are

members of the NDA include:
The Beja Congress (BC)
The Baa'th Party (pro-Iraq) [9b]
The Baa'th Party (pro-Syria) [9b]
The Democratic Unionist Party (DUP - Mirghani faction and its groupings) [9b]
The Legitimate Command (LC) - formed from dissident military officers from Sudan
The Sudan Alliance Forces (SAF) - founded in 1994 by Cmmdr-in-Chief Brig. Abd el-Aziz Khalid Osman)
Sudan African National Union (SANU) [9b]
The Sudanese Communist Party (SCP - Nogud faction) [9b]
The Sudan Federal Democratic Alliance (SFDA) - founded 1994, Chair - Ahmad Dreige, advocates a decentralised, federal structure for Sudan
The Sudanese National Party (SNP) [9b]
The Sudan People's Democratic Front (SPDF) [9b]
The Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) - Leader - Dr. Mansur Khalid and the SPLM's military wing, **The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA)** - Leader - Col. John Garang, Secretary-General - James Wani Igga
Three Lions (TL) - an armed rebel group led by Mabrouk Mubarak operating in eastern Sudan between Kassala and Port Sudan. [9b]
The Sudan Liberation Movement - an armed rebel group based in Darfur but with a national agenda. [15t] [15q]

ANNEX C

LIST OF THE MAIN ETHNIC GROUPS OF SUDAN [40]

Arab Ethnic Groups (mostly northern Sudan and parts of central and southern Sudan)

Baggara, Batahin, Beni Helba, Budairia, Dar Hamid, Habbania, Hamar, Hamr, Hassania, Hawasma, Hawawir, Jawamia, Kababisch, Kawahila, Kinana, Jaalin, Jim, Manasir, Masiria, Musallmia, Rubatab, Rufaa, Ruzaikat, Schaikia, Schukria, Selim, Taaischa

Non-Arab Ethnic Groups Collectively known as the Beja (north east Sudan)

Amarar, Beni Amer, Bischarin, Hadendoa

Black Ethnic Groups (north west Sudan)

Dago, Fur, Maba, Massaleit, Tama, Zaghawa

Black Ethnic Groups Collectively Known as the Nubians (central and part of northern Sudan)

Anag, Barabra, Birked, Danagla, Dilling, Mahas, Midobi

Black Ethnic Groups Collectively Known as the Nuba (central Sudan)

Kadugli, Katla, Koalib, Krongo, Nemyang or Nyima, Tagoi, Temeini

Black Ethnic Groups (central and southern Sudan)

Baka, Bongo, Kreisch, Ndogo

Black Ethnic Groups (southern Sudan)

Acholi, Anuak, Azande, Banda, Bari, Berta or Schankalla, Dinka, Karamojo, Koma, Lango, Lotuko, Luo, Madi, Mangbetu, Moru, Mundu, Murle or Molen, Nuer, Schilluk, Sere, Turkana

ANNEX D

LANGUAGES OF SUDAN [34]

Spoken Living Languages

ACHERON
[ACZ] Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, southern Nuba Hills. *Alternate names:* GARME. *Dialects:* EASTERN ACHERON, WESTERN ACHERON. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Talodi Proper, Tocho.

ACHOLI
[ACO] 27,000 in Sudan (1978 SIL). Southern Sudan, Opari District, Acholi Hills. *Alternate names:* ACOLI, ATSCHOLI, SHULI, GANG, LWO, AKOLI, ACOOLI, LOG ACOLI, DOK ACOLI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo, Southern, Luo-Acholi, Alur-Acholi, Lango-Acholi.

AFITTI
[AFT] 4,512 (1984 R. C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills, eastern Jebel ed Dair. Main center is Sidra. *Alternate names:* DITTI, UNIETTI, AFFITTI, DINIK. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Nyimang.

AJA
[AJA] 200 (1993 R. Brown SIL). Southern Sudan, Western Bahr el Ghazal Province. Also reported to be in the western CAR, along the Sudan border, near the Shinko and Sapo rivers. *Alternate names:* AJJA, ADJA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Kresh.

AKA
[SOH] A few hundred (1989 Bender). Northern Sudan, Sillok (Silak) Hills, west of the main Berta-speaking people. *Alternate names:* SILLOK, JEBELS SILLOK, JEBEL SILAK, FA-C-AKA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Eastern Jebel, Aka-Kelo-Molo.

AMA

[NYI] 70,000 (1982 SIL). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, northwest of Dilling on range of hills of which Jebel Nyimang is a part, and on the Mandal range. *Alternate names:* NYIMANG, INYIMANG, NYIMA, NYIMAN. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Nyimang.

ANUAK
[ANU] 52,000 in Sudan (1991 UBS). Population total both countries 98,000. *Alternate names:* ANYWAK, ANYWA, YAMBO, JAMBO, NURO, ANYUAK, DHO ANYWAA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo, Northern, Anuak.

ARABIC, STANDARD
[ABV] Middle East, North Africa. *Classification:* Afro-Asiatic, Semitic, Central, South, Arabic.

ARABIC, SUDANESE CREOLE
[PGA] 20,000 first language and 44,000 second language speakers in Juba alone (1987 estimate). Southern Sudan, in the towns and many villages all over Equatoria Region, and up into Bahr al Ghazal and Upper Nile regions. Refugees have gone to other countries. *Alternate names:* JUBA ARABIC, SOUTHERN SUDAN ARABIC, PIDGIN ARABIC. *Classification:* Creole, Arabic based.

ARABIC, SUDANESE SPOKEN
[APD] 15,000,000 or more in Sudan, 51% of population (1991). Population total all countries 16,000,000 to 19,000,000. *Alternate names:* KHARTOUM ARABIC. *Dialects:* KHARTOUM, WESTERN SUDANESE, NORTH KORDOFAN ARABIC, JA'ALI, SHUKRI. *Classification:* Afro-Asiatic, Semitic, Central, South, Arabic.

AVOKAYA
[AVU] 15,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL), including 2,800 Ajigu and 12,000 Ojila. Southern Sudan, Western Equatoria Province. The Ajiga dialect is north of Yei and south of Maridi, the Ojila dialect is mainly between the Naam (Era) and Olo rivers and farther east. *Alternate names:* ABUKEIA, AVUKAYA. *Dialects:* OJILA (ODZILA, ODZILIWA), AJIGU (ADJIGA, OJIGA, AGAMORU). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, East, Moru-Madi, Central.

BAI
[BDJ] 2,500 (1971 Welmers). Southern Sudan, Western District, on Wau-Deim Zubeir road, west of Sere. A few north of Tembura. 2 villages. *Alternate names:* BARI. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Sere-Ngbaka-Mba, Sere, Sere-Bviri, Bai-Viri.

BAKA
[BDH] 25,000 in Sudan (1993 UBS). Population total both countries 26,300. *Alternate names:* TARA BAAKA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Bongo-Baka, Baka.

BANDA, MID-SOUTHERN
[BJO] Southern Sudan, town of Sopo, near CAR border, and refugees in Khartoum. *Dialects:* DUKPU, WASA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Banda, Central, Central Core, Mid-Southern.

BANDA, TOGBO-VARA
[TOR] Southern Sudan. *Dialects:* TOGBO (TOHGBOH, TAGBO). *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Banda, Central, Central Core, Togbo-Vara.

BANDA, WEST CENTRAL
[BBP] 3,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL). Between Wau and Mboro. *Alternate names:* GOLO. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Banda, West Central.

BANDA-BANDA
[BPD] Southern Sudan, town of Sopo near CAR border. Refugees in Khartoum. *Dialects:* GOVORO (GOVHOROH), VIDIRI (MVEDERE, VODERE, VIDRI, VADARA), WUNDU. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Banda, Central, Central Core, Banda-Banda.

BANDA-MBRÈS
[BQK] Southern Sudan, town of Sopo, near the CAR border, and refugees in Khartoum. *Alternate names:* BANDA OF MBRÉS, BANDA-MBRE. *Dialects:* BUKA (BOUKA), MBRE (MBERE, MBELE), MORUBA (MOROUBA, MARABA), SABANGA (SANGBANGA), WADA (OUADDA). *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Banda, Central, Central Core, Banda-Mbres.

BANDA-NDÉLÉ
[BFL] Southern Sudan, town of Sopo near the CAR border, and refugees in Khartoum. *Alternate names:* BANDA OF NDÉLÉ, NYELE. *Dialects:* JUNGURU (DJINGBURU, NGURU), TANGBAGO (TAMBOLO, TAMBAGGO, TOMBAGGO, TANGAGO), BANDA-KPAYA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Banda, Central, Central Core, Banda-Ndele.

BARI
[BFA] 226,000 in Sudan (1978 SIL), including 26,400 in Kuku, 18,000 in Nyangbara, 3,400 in Nyepu, 25,000 in Pojulu. Population total both countries 286,000 or more. *Alternate names:* BERI. *Dialects:* KUKU, NYANGBARA (NYANGWARA, NYAMBARA), NYEPU (NYEFU, NYEPO, NYPHO, NGYEPU), PÖJULU (PAJULU, FADJULU, FAJELU, MADI), LIGO (LIGGO). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Bari.

BEDAWI
[BEI] 951,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL) including 30,000 Hadendoa, 15,000 Bisharin (1992). Population total all countries 1,148,000. *Alternate names:* BEJA,

BEDAWIYE, BEDAUYE, TO-BEDAWIE, BEDJA. *Dialects:* HADENDOA (HADENDOWA, HADENDIWA), HADAREB (HADAAREB), BISHARIN (BISARIAB), BENI-AMIR. *Classification:* Afro-Asiatic, Cushitic, North.

BELANDA BOR
[BXB] 8,000 (1983 SIL). Southern Sudan, on the main road south of Wau. *Alternate names:* DE BOR. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo, Northern, Bor.

BELANDA VIRI
[BVI] 16,000 (1971 Welmers). Southern Sudan, scattered, around Raffili, on the Wau road, on the Kuru River, 40 miles from Deim Zubeir, around Tembura among the Zande, on the Iba River near Yambio. *Alternate names:* VIRI, BVIRI, BIRI, GUMBA, GAMBA, MBEGUMBA, MVEGUMBA, BELANDA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Sere-Ngbaka-Mba, Sere, Sere-Bviri, Bai-Viri.

BELI
[BLM] 6,600 including 5,000 Beli, 1,600 Sopi (1982 SIL). Southern Sudan. One group is southwest of Rumbek, at Wulu, westward along the road to Bahr Gel and south toward the southern border of Lakes Province. In some areas they are heavily intermingled with Dinka. Another group lives east of Mvolo and has no links with the first group. They are centered around Bahri Girinti (Lake Nyiropo) just west of Yei River. *Alternate names:* BEHLI, BEILI, JUR BELI, 'BELI. *Dialects:* WULU, BAHRI GIRINTI, SOPI (SUPI). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Bongo-Baka, Morokodo-Beli.

BERTA
[WTI] 22,000. Northern Sudan. *Alternate names:* BARTA, BURTA, 'BENI SHANGUL', WETAWIT. *Dialects:* SHURU, BAKE, UNDU, MAYU, FADASHI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Berta.

BOGURU
[BQU] Population total both countries 494 and more (1997). *Alternate names:* KOGURU, KOGORO, BUGURU. *Dialects:* BOGURU, BUKUR (BUKUM, BUKURU). *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, Benue-Congo, Bantoid, Southern, Narrow Bantu, Central, D, Bira-Huku (D.30).

BONGO
[BOT] 5,000 to 10,000 (1987 SIL). A large sparsely populated area reaching from Tonj and Wau on the north, the Beli on the east, the Zande on the south, and the Bor on the west. *Alternate names:* BUNGU, DOR. *Dialects:* BUSERE BONGO, TONJ BONGO, BUNGO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Bongo-Baka, Bongo.

BURUN
[BDI] 18,000 (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Northern Sudan, Blue Nile Province. *Alternate names:* BARUN, LANGE, CAI, BORUN. *Dialects:* RAGREIG, ABULDUGU

(BOGON, MUGO-MBORKOINA), MAIAK, MUFWA (MOPO), MUGHAJA (MUGAJA, MUMUGHADJA). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo, Northern, Maban-Burun, Burun.

DAGIK
[DEC] (38,000 with Ngile; 1982 SIL). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, Nuba Mts., on some outlying hills in Mesakin Hills, Reika village. *Alternate names:* MASAKIN, MASAKIN DAGIG, DAGIG, REIKHA, DENGEBU. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Talodi Proper, Ngile-Dengebu.

DAIR
[DRB] 1,000 (1978 GR). Northern Sudan, west and south parts of Jebel Dair, Kordofan. *Alternate names:* DAIER, THAMINYI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Hill, Unclassified.

DAJU, DAR FUR
[DAJ] 70,000 to 90,000 all Daju in Dar Fur (1983 Bender). Northern Sudan, Dar Fur Province, in the Daju Hills 25 miles northeast of Nyala. Also in Geneina District in Dar Masalit. The West Kordofan dialect is in the Daju Hills near Lagowa, with main settlements at Dar el Kabira, Nyukri, and Tamanyik and other hills. *Alternate names:* NYALA-LAGOWA, FININGA, DAGU, DAJU FERNE, BEKE. *Dialects:* NYALA, LAGOWA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Daju, Western Daju.

DAJU, DAR SILA
[DAU] Northern Sudan. Nearly all those Daju of Dar Sila who are in Sudan have migrated into Dar Fur and settled there in recent times. *Alternate names:* SILA, SULA, MONGO-SILA, BOKOR, BOKORUGE, BOKORIKE. *Dialects:* MONGO, SILA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Daju, Western Daju.

DIDINGA
[DID] 58,000 (1978 SIL). Southern Sudan, Didinga Hills and north of Nagishot. *Alternate names:* 'DI'DINGA, XAROXA, TOI, LANGO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Surmic, South, Southwest, Didinga-Murle, Didinga-Longarim.

DILLING
[DIL] 5,295 (1984 R. C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Southern Kordofan, town of Dilling and surrounding hills, including Kudr. *Alternate names:* DELEN, WARKI, WARKIMBE. *Dialects:* DILLING, DEBRI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Hill, Unclassified.

DINKA, NORTHEASTERN
[DIP] 320,000 (1986 UBS) including 7,200 Abialang, 9,000 Dongjol, 2,500 Luac, 16,000 Ngok-Sobat, 20,000 Jok, 13,500 Ageer, 2,000 Rut, 400 Thoi. Southern Sudan, northeast of the Sudd, along both sides of the White Nile, and along the Sobat River. *Alternate names:* PADANG, WHITE NILE DINKA. *Dialects:* ABILIANG (DINKA IBRAHIM, AKOON, BAWOM, BOWOM), DONGJOL, LUAC (LUAIC),

NGOK-SOBAT (NGORK, JOK), AGEER (AGER, AGEIR, ABUYA, BEER, NIEL, NYEL, PALOC, PALOIC), RUT, THOI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Dinka-Nuer, Dinka.

DINKA, NORTHWESTERN
[DIW] 80,000 Ruweng (1986). Southern Sudan, north of the Bahr el Ghazal River, and southern Kordofan around Abyei. *Dialects:* ALOR, NGOK-KORDOFAN, PAN ARU, RUWENG. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Dinka-Nuer, Dinka.

DINKA, SOUTH CENTRAL
[DIB] 250,000 including 2,000 Aker, 2,000 Thany, 22,000 Ciec, 25,000 Gok (Tucker and Bryan). (Total Dinka 2,000,000 or more. Southern Sudan, west of the Nile, south of the Sudd. Aker is southeast of the Agar; Aliap is south of the Bor in a few fishing villages mainly on the east bank of the Nile. Ciec is in Lakes District on the west bank of the Nile. Gok is between the Agar and the Rek in Jur River and Lakes districts. *Alternate names:* AGAR, CENTRAL DINKA. *Dialects:* ALIAP (ALIAB, THANY, AKER), CIEC (CIEM, CIC, CHIECH, KWAC, AJAK, ADOR), GOK (GAUK, COK), AGAR. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Dinka-Nuer, Dinka.

DINKA, SOUTHEASTERN
[DIN] 250,000 including 21,000 Atoc, 9,000 Ghol, 4,000 Nyarueng, 35,000 Twi, 21,000 Bor Gok (Tucker and Bryan). 500,000 including South Central (Agar) and Southeastern (Bor) (1982 UBS). Southern Sudan, east of the Nile, around Bor and northwards. *Alternate names:* BOR, EASTERN DINKA. *Dialects:* BOR (BOR GOK), ATHOC (ATHOIC, ATOC, BORATHOI, BOR ATHOIC), GHOL, NYARWENG (NYARUENG, NARREWENG), TUIC (TWI). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Dinka-Nuer, Dinka.

DINKA, SOUTHWESTERN
[DIK] 450,000 (1982 UBS) including 55,000 Abiem, 15,000 Luac, 40,000 Malual, 17,000 Paliet, 35,000 Palioupiny, 50,000 Tuic. Southern Sudan, north and northwest of Wau. *Alternate names:* REK, WESTERN DINKA. *Dialects:* REK (RAIK), ABIEM (AJONG DIT, AJONG THI, AKANY KOK, AKERN JOK, APUOTH, APWOTH, ANEI), AGUOK (AGWOK), APUK, AWAN, LAU, LUAC, MALUAL (MALWAL, ATOKTOU, DULIIT, KOROK, MAKEM, PETH), PALIET (BALIET, AJAK, BUONCWAI, BON SHWAI, BWONCWAI, KONGDER, KONDAIR, THANY BUR, TAINBOUR), PALIOUPINY (PALIOPING, AKJUET, AKWANG, AYAT, CIMEL, GOMJUER), TUIC (TWIC, TWICH, TWIJ, ADHIANG, AMIOL, NYANG, THON). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Dinka-Nuer, Dinka.

DONGOTONO
[DDD] Southern Sudan, eastern Equatoria Province, Dongotono Hills southeast of Torit. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Lotuxo-Teso, Lotuxo-Maa, Lotuxo.

EL HUGEIRAT

[ELH] 1,000 (1978 GR). Northern Sudan, West Kordofan on El Hugeirat Hills. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Hill, Unclassified.

FEROGE
[FER] 8,000 (1982 SIL). Southern Sudan, Western Bahr el Ghazal at Khor Shamam, 8 miles northeast of Raga. *Alternate names:* FERROGE, FEROGHE, KALIGI, KALIKI, KALIGE, KALIKE. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Sere-Ngbaka-Mba, Sere, Feroge-Mangaya.

FULFULDE, ADAMAWA
[FUB] 90,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL). Northern Sudan, Blue Nile and Kordofan regions. *Alternate names:* FELLATA. *Dialects:* GOMBE. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Atlantic, Northern, Senegambian, Fula-Wolof, Fulani, Eastern.

FUR
[FUR] 500,000 in Sudan (1983 Bender). Population total both countries 502,000. *Alternate names:* FOR, FORA, FORDUNGA, FURAWI, FURAKANG, FORTA, FOROK, KONJARA, KUNGARA, YERGE, ONAGE, KORRA, KADIRGI, KURKA, DALA, LALI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Fur.

GAAM
[TBI] 40,000 to 80,000 (1997 M.L. Bender). Northern Sudan. The main center is in and around Jebel Tabi, on Tabi Massif and outlying hills. A small community in Khartoum. Not in Ethiopia. *Alternate names:* INGASSANA, INGESSANA, TABI, METABI, MUNTABI, MAMEDJA, MAMIDZA, KAMANIDI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Eastern Jebel, Gaam.

GBAYA
[KRS] 16,000 (1987 SIL). About 4,000 others speak Gbaya as second language. Population total both countries 16,000. *Alternate names:* KRESH, KREISH, KREICH, KREDJ, KPARLA, KPALA, KPARA. *Dialects:* NAKA (KRESH-BORO), GBAYA-NDOGO (KRESH-NDOGO), GBAYA-NGBONGBO (KRESH-HOFRA), GBAYA-GBOKO, ORLO (WORO), GBAYA-DARA, DONGO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Kresh.

GHULFAN
[GHL] 16,000 (1984 R. C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Kordofan, in two hill ranges 25 to 30 miles south of Dilling: Ghulfan Kurgul and Ghulfan Morung. *Alternate names:* GULFAN, WUNCI, WUNCIMBE. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Hill, Kadaru-Ghulfan.

GULA
[KCM] 200 to 2,000 in Sudan (1987 SIL). Southern Sudan at Kafia Kingi in extreme western Bahr el Ghazal Province and at Kata. *Alternate names:* KARA, KARA OF SUDAN, YAMEGI. *Dialects:* GULA (GOULA), NGURU (BUBU, KOYO). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Kara.

GUMUZ
[GUK] 40,000 in Sudan. Northern Sudan, around Famaka, Roseires from Ethiopia border possibly as far as Fazoglo. *Alternate names:* MENDEYA, DEBATSA, DEGUBA, DEHENDA, GUMIS, GOMBO, SHANKILLINYA, SHANQILLA. *Dialects:* DISOHA (DESUA), DAKUNZA (DEGOJA, DUKUNZA, GUNZA, GANZA, DUKUNA, DUGUNZA), SAI, SESE (SAYSAY), DEKOKA, DEWIYA, KUKWAYA, GOMBO, JEMHWA, MODEA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Komuz, Gumuz.

HAUSA
[HUA] 418,000 in Sudan (1993 Johnstone). Northern Sudan. *Classification:* Afro-Asiatic, Chadic, West, A, A.1.

HEIBAN
[HEB] 4,412 (1984). Northern Sudan, around Heiban, Abul (Obul) and nearby hills. In Heiban town on the Abri-Talodi road. *Alternate names:* EBANG, ABUL. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, West-Central, Central, Ebang-Logol, Ebang-Laru.

INDRI
[IDR] 700. Southern Sudan, southwest, in a small area around Raga. *Alternate names:* YANDERIKA, YANDIRIKA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Sere-Ngbaka-Mba, Sere, Indri-Togoyo.

JUMJUM
[JUM] 25,000 to 50,000 (1987 SIL). Northern Upper Nile Province, along Khor Jumjum on Jebels Tunga, Terta, and Wadega. *Alternate names:* BERIN, OLGA, WADEGA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo, Northern, Maban-Burun, Maban.

JUR MODO
[BEX] 15,400 (1982 SIL). Southern Sudan, vicinity of Mvolo and on the Naam (Olo) River. *Dialects:* LORI, MODO (JUR MODO, MODO LALI), WIRA, WETU. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Bongo-Baka, Morokodo-Beli.

KACIPO-BALESI
[KOE] 5,000 in Sudan (1983 SIL). Population total both countries 7,000 to 8,000. *Dialects:* KICHEPO, SURI, WESTERN SURI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Surmic, South, Southwest, Kacipo-Balesi.

KADARU
[KDU] 7,000 including Western Kadaru (1978 GR). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, Nuba mountains, north and east part of the Kadaru Hills between Dilling and Delami. *Alternate names:* KADARO, KADERO, KADERU, KODORO, KODHIN, KODHINNIAI. *Dialects:* WESTERN KADARU. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Hill, Kadaru-Ghulfan.

KAKWA
[KEO] 40,000 in Sudan (1978 SIL). Southern Sudan, Yei District, extending into DRC in the west at Aba and in the south around Mahagi. *Alternate names:* BARI KAKWA, KAKUA, KWAKWAK, KAKWAK. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Bari.

KANGA
[KCP] 8,000 (1989). Northern Sudan, Miri Hills, west and southwest of Kadugli. *Alternate names:* KUFO, KUFA. *Dialects:* ABU SINUN, CHIRORO-KURSI, KUFA-LIMA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kadugli, Central.

KANURI, CENTRAL
[KPH] 195,000 in Sudan (1993 Johnstone). Northern. *Alternate names:* YERWA KANURI, KANOURI, BORNU, BORNOUANS, KANOURY, KOLE, SIRATA, 'BERIBERI'. *Dialects:* DAGARA, KAGA (KAGAMA), SUGURTI, LARE, KWAYAM, NJESKO, KABARI (KUVURI), NGAZAR, GUVJA, MAO, TEMAGERI, FADAWA, MAIDUGURI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Saharan, Western, Kanuri.

KARKO
[KKO] 12,986 (1984 R.C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Kordofan, in Karko Hills 20 miles west of Dilling, including Dulman. May also be spoken on Abu Jinik to the west (1,000) and El Tabaq southwest of Katla (800). *Alternate names:* GARKO, KITHONIRISHE. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Hill, Unclassified.

KATCHA-KADUGLI-MIRI
[KAT] 74,935 including 48,864 Kadugli and Katcha, 26,071 Miri (1984 R.C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, in the southern hills of the Nuba Hills area. Katcha is in villages a short distance south of Kadugli and southeast of the Miri Hills. Kadugli is also in villages surrounding Kadugli. Miri is in Miri villages south of Kadugli. *Dialects:* KATCHA (TOLUBI, DHOLUBI, TUNA, KACA), KADUGLI (DAKALLA, TALLA, DHALLA, TOMA MA DALLA, KUDUGLI, MORTA), MIRI, DAMBA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kadugli, Central.

KATLA
[KCR] 14,208 (1984 R.C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills, Katla Hills 35 miles southwest of Dilling. *Alternate names:* AKALAK, KALAK. *Dialects:* BOMBORI, KATEIK, KIDDU, KIRKPONG, KAROKA, KOLDRONG, JULUD (GULUD). *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Katla.

KEIGA
[KEC] 6,072 (1984 R.C. Stevenson) out of a larger ethnic population. Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills area, Jebel Demik, north of Miri. *Alternate names:* YEGA, KEIGA-TIMERO, KEIGA-AL-KHEIL, DEMIK, AIGANG. *Dialects:* DEMIK (ROFIK), KEIGA (AIGANG). *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kadugli, Western.

KELIKO

[KBO] 10,000 in Sudan (1998 SIL). Population total all countries 22,500. *Alternate names:* KALIKO. *Dialects:* EASTERN KALIKO, WESTERN KALIKO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, East, Moru-Madi, Central.

KELO
[TSN] Northern Sudan, Tornasi Hills; Jebels Tornasi (Keeli village) and Beni Sheko. West of Berta speaking people. *Alternate names:* TORNASI, KELO-BENI SHEKO, NDU-FAA-KEELO. *Dialects:* BENI SHEKO, KELO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Eastern Jebel, Aka-Kelo-Molo.

KENUZI-DONGOLA
[KNC] 180,000 in Sudan (1996). Population total both countries 280,000. *Alternate names:* DONGOLA-KENUZ, NILE NUBIAN, DONGOLAWI. *Dialects:* DONGOLA, KENUZI (KENUZ, KUNUZI). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Dongolawi.

KO
[FUJ] 2,683 (1984 R. C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, on small isolated hills in the extreme eastern part of the Nuba hills, between Talodi and the White Nile. *Alternate names:* KAU, FUNGOR, FUNGUR. *Dialects:* KAU (KO), NYARO. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, Eastern.

KOALIB
[KIB] 44,258 (1984 R.C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, southern Kordofan Province, Nuba Mountains, around Delami, including Umm Berumbita and Turum (Nguqwurang), south and southwest of Abri around Koalib range (Ngunduna), at and around Nyukwur, also at Umm Heitan and Hadra (Nginyukwur), in villages scattered over the plain around Abri (Ngirere). *Alternate names:* KAWALIB, KOWALIB, NGIRERE, NIRERE, RERE, LGALIGE, ABRI. *Dialects:* NGUQWURANG, NGUNDUNA, NGINYUKWUR, NGIRERE, NGEMERE. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, West-Central, Central, Rere.

KOMO
[KOM] 10,000 in Sudan (1979 James). Population total both countries 11,500. *Alternate names:* KOMA OF DAGA, COMO, CENTRAL KOMA, GOKWOM, HAYAHAYA, MADIIN. *Dialects:* BEILLA, CHALI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Komuz, Koman.

KRONGO
[KGO] 21,688 (1984 R.C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Krongo Hills, south of Masakin range and west of Talodi, Kordofan Province. *Alternate names:* KORONGO, KURUNGU, KADUMODI, TABANYA, DIMODONGO. *Dialects:* FAMA-TEIS-KUA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kadugli, Eastern.

LAFOFA
[LAF] 5,140 (1984 R. C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills, central Eliri range and on two hills to the south and east. *Alternate names:* KIDIE, TEGEM. *Dialects:* JEBEL EL AMIRA (EL AMIRA), JEBEL TEKEIM (JEBEL, TEKEIM, TEGEM),

LAFOFA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Tegem.

LANGO
[LNO] 20,000 possibly (1987 SIL). Southern Sudan, eastern Equatoria Province, Torit District. *Alternate names:* LANGGO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Lotuxo-Teso, Lotuxo-Maa, Lotuxo.

LARO
[LRO] 40,000 (1998 local estimate). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills on the hills of Laro (Alleira) and a few small hills nearby. *Alternate names:* LARU, AALEIRA, YILLARO, NGWULLARO. *Dialects:* TUNDULI, LARO. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, West-Central, Central, Ebang-Logol, Ebang-Laru.

LOGOL
[LOF] 2,600 (1956 Tucker and Bryan). Northern Sudan, on small isolated hills in the extreme eastern part of the Nuba Hills, between Talodi and the White Nile. *Alternate names:* LUKHA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, West-Central, Central, Ebang-Logol, Logol.

LOGORIK
[LIU] 2,000 (1971 Welmers). Northern Sudan, central Nuba Mts., Jebel Liguri and other hills northeast of Kadugli. *Alternate names:* LIGURI. *Dialects:* SABURI, TALLAU (TALAU, TALO), LIGURI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Daju, Eastern Daju.

LOKOYA
[LKY] 12,392 (1952). Southern Sudan, eastern Equatoria, Torit District. *Alternate names:* LOKOIYA, LOKOJA, LOQUIA, LOWOI, OWOI, LOIRYA, OIRYA, ELLYRIA, OXORIOK, KOYO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Lotuxo-Teso, Lotuxo-Maa, Lotuxo.

LONGARIM
[LOH] 3,623 (1983 K. Fukui survey). Southern Sudan, western Boya Hills, around Mr. Kosodek and Mt. Lobuli. *Alternate names:* NARIM, LARIM, LARIMINIT, BOYA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Surmic, South, Southwest, Didinga-Murle, Didinga-Longarim.

LOPPIT
[LPX] 50,000 (1995 Scott Randal). Southern Sudan, eastern Equatoria Province, Lopit Hills, northeast of Torit. *Alternate names:* LOPIT, LOPID, LOFIT, LAFITE, LAFIT, LAFIIT. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Lotuxo-Teso, Lotuxo-Maa, Lotuxo.

LULUBO
[LUL] 15,000 (1985 SIL). Southern Sudan, eastern Equatoria Province, about 30 miles east of the Nile River. *Alternate names:* LULUBA, OLUBOGO, OLUBOTI,

OLU'BO, ONDOE, LOLUBO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, East, Moru-Madi, Southern.

LUMUN
[LMD] Northern Sudan, Talodi, Moro Hills. *Alternate names:* LOMON, KUKU-LUMUN. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Talodi Proper, Tocho.

LUWO
[LWO] 80,000 (1983 census). Southern Sudan, north of Wau toward Aweil, southeast of Wau as far as Tonj. *Alternate names:* LWO, JUR LUO, JUR LWO, JO LWO, DHE LWO, DHE LUWO, GIUR. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo, Northern, Jur.

MA'DI
[MHI] 18,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL). Southern Sudan, Equatoria Province, Madi Subdistrict, Opari District, West Nile District. *Alternate names:* MA'ADI, MA'DITI, MA'DI. *Dialects:* PANDIKERI, LOKAI, 'BURULO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, East, Moru-Madi, Southern.

MABAAN
[MFZ] 25,000 to 50,000 (1987 SIL). On the border of Blue Nile and Upper Nile provinces, between Yabus and Tombak rivers in the north and Khor Daga in the south. Not in Ethiopia. *Alternate names:* MAABAN, MEBAN, SOUTHERN BURUN, GURA, TUNGAN, BARGA, TONKO, ULU. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo, Northern, Maban-Burun, Maban.

MANDARI
[MQU] 35,812 (1952). Southern Sudan, near Bari; 1 division around Tali, the other on both sides of the Nile between Tombe and Mongalla. *Alternate names:* MONDARI, MUNDARI, SHIR, CHIR, KIR. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Bari.

MANGAYAT
[MYJ] 400 (1987 SIL). Southern Sudan, in Western Bahr el Ghazal, some in Raga, most in Mangayat, 18 miles southeast of Raga. *Alternate names:* MANGAYA, MONGAIYAT, BUG. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Sere-Ngbaka-Mba, Sere, Feroge-Mangaya.

MASSALEIT
[MSA] 145,000 in Sudan. Population total both countries 250,000 (1983 Doornbos and Bender). *Alternate names:* MASALIT, MASSALIT, KAANA MASALA, JWISINCE. *Dialects:* SURBAKHAL. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Maban, Mabang, Masalit.

MIDOB
[MEI] 50,000 (1993 R. Werner). Northern Sudan, Dar Fur Province, Jebel Midob, and settled communities in Omdurman and Gezira Aba. The center is Malha. *Alternate names:* MEIDOB, MIDOBI, TIDDA, TID, TID-N-AAL. *Dialects:* SHELKOTA

(SHALKOTA), KAAGEDDI, URRTI (UURTI). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Western.

MO'DA
[GBN] 600 (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Southern Sudan, northwest of Mvolo on both sides of the border of Lakes and Western Equatoria provinces. *Alternate names:* GBERI, GWERI, GBARA, MUDA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Bongo-Baka, Morokodo-Beli, Morokodo-Mo'da.

MOLO
[ZMO] 100 (1988 M.L. Bender). At Jebel Malkan, near the Berta language, south of the Blue Nile, near the Ethiopian border. *Alternate names:* MALKAN, TURA-KA-MOLO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Eastern Jebel, Aka-Kelo-Molo.

MORO
[MOR] 30,000 (1982 SIL) including 4,100 Abu Leila and Lebu, 460 Umm Dore, 9,000 Umm Gabralla (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Northern Sudan, eastern Nuba Mountains, Kordofan Province. *Alternate names:* DHIMORONG. *Dialects:* UMM DOREIN (LOGORBAN), UMM GABRALLA (TOBERELDA), NDERRE, LAIYEN, NUBWA, ULBA, WERRIA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, West-Central, Western.

MOROKODO
[MGC] 3,400 or more, including 280 Biti (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Southern Sudan, in the area between Amadi and Maridi. *Alternate names:* MA'DI. *Dialects:* BITI, MA'DU, MOROKODO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Bongo-Baka, Morokodo-Beli, Morokodo-Mo'da.

MORU
[MGD] 70,000 (1982 SIL), including 1,200 Agi, 2,500 Andri, 5,000 Kadiro, 9,000 Miza, 400 Wa'di. Southern Sudan, Mundri District, Equatoria Province. *Alternate names:* KALA MORU. *Dialects:* AGI, ANDRI, 'BALI'BA, KADIRO, LAKAMA'DI, MIZA, MORUWA'DI. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, East, Moru-Madi, Northern.

MÜNDÜ
[MUH] 23,000 in Sudan. Population total both countries 25,800. *Alternate names:* MUNDO, MOUNTOU, MONDU, MONDO. *Dialects:* SHATT. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Sere-Ngbaka-Mba, Ngbaka-Mba, Ngbaka, Eastern, Mundu.

MURLE
[MUR] 60,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL). Population total both countries 60,200. *Alternate names:* MURELEI, MERULE, MOURLE, MURULE, BEIR, AJIBBA, AGIBA, ADKIBBA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Surmic, South, Southwest, Didinga-Murle, Murle.

NDING
[ELI] 3,513 (1984 Stevenson). Northern Sudan, southern Eliri range. *Alternate names:* ELIRI. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Talodi Proper, Nding.

NDOGO
[NDZ] 20,000 (1993). Southern Sudan, Western District along Wau-Deim Zubeir Road between Mboro and Kpango rivers. A few are north of Tembura among the Zande. Not in CAR. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Sere-Ngbaka-Mba, Sere, Sere-Bviri, Ndogo-Sere.

NGILE
[MAS] 38,000 including Dagik (1982 SIL). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, Nuba Mountains, in Mesakin Hills on some outlying hills. *Alternate names:* MASAKIN, MESAKIN, DALOKA, TALOKA, DARRA. *Dialects:* AHEIMA (EL AKHEIMAR), DALOKA (TALOKA), MASAKIN GUSAR (MESAKIN QUSAR, MASAKIN BURAM), MASAKIN TUWAL (TIWAL, TOWAL). *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Talodi Proper, Ngile-Dengebu.

NJALGULGULE
[NJL] 900 (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Southern Sudan, on the Sopo River just above the Sopo-Boro confluence, and west of the Dinka. 1 village. *Alternate names:* NYOLGE, NYOOLNE, NGULGULE, BEGI, BEGE, BEKO, NJANGULGULE. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Daju, Western Daju.

NOBIIN
[FIA] 295,000 in Sudan (1996). Population total both countries 545,000. *Alternate names:* MAHAS-FIADIDJA, MAHAS-FIYADIKKYA, FIADIDJA-MAHAS. *Dialects:* MAHAS (MAHASI, MAHASS), FIYADIKKA (FEDICCA, FADICHA, FADICCA, FADIJA, FIADIDJA). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Northern.

NUER
[NUS] 740,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL), including 2,935 Western Jikany, 12,500 Lou, 1,100 Nyuong, 2,500 Thiang, 5,900 Bul, 2,400 Jagai, 6,700 Laak, 4,900 Leik, 1,600 Door, 17,600 Eastern Jikany (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Population total both countries 805,000. *Alternate names:* NAATH, NAADH. *Dialects:* DOR (DOOR), EASTERN JIKANY (JIKAIN, JEKAING), ABIGAR, WESTERN JIKANY, CIEN, THOGNAATH (THOK NATH), LOU (LAU), NYUONG, THIANG (BUL, GAWAAR, JAGAI, LAAK, LEIK). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Dinka-Nuer, Nuer.

NYAMUSA-MOLO
[NYO] 1,200 Nyamusa (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Southern Sudan, western Equatoria Province, southeast of Beli, northeast of Morokodo. *Dialects:* NYAMUSA, MOLO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Bongo-Baka, Morokodo-Beli, Morokodo-Mo'da.

OPUUO
[LGN] Northern Sudan. *Alternate names:* OPO-SHITA, OPO, OPUO, LANGA,
SHITA, SHITTA, CITA, CIITA, ANSITA, KINA, KWINA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan,
Komuz, Koman.

OTORO
[OTR] 13,000 (1989). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, Nuba Mountains region,
Otoro Hills south of Heiban and west of the Heiban-Talodi road. *Alternate names:*
UTORO, DHITORO, LITORO, KAWAMA, KAWARMA. *Dialects:* DIJAMA,
DUGWUJUR, DOKWARA, DOROMBE, DOGORINDI, DAGARRO, DUGURILA.
Classification: Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, West-
Central, Central, Ebang-Logol, Utoro.

OTUHO
[LOT] 135,000 including Dongotono (1998), 2,500 Koriot, 1,000 Lomya (1977
Voegelin and Voegelin). Southern Sudan, Torit District, eastern Equatoria Province,
east and southeast of the Luluba and the Lokoya. *Alternate names:* LOTUKO,
LOTUHO, LOTUXO, LOTUKA, LATTUKA, LATUKO, LATUKA, LATOOKA, OTUXO,
OLOTORIT. *Dialects:* KORIOK, LOGIRI (LOGIR), LOMYA (LOMIA), LORWAMA,
LOWUDO (LOUDO, LAUDA), LOGOTOK. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern
Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Lotuxo-Teso, Lotuxo-Maa, Lotuxo.

PÄRI
[LKR] 28,000 (1987 SIL). Southern Sudan, Upper Nile Province. *Alternate names:*
LOKORO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo,
Northern, Unclassified.

REEL
[ATU] 50,000 (1998 Atuot community). Bordering Ciec Dinka in the north near
Panekar, Agar Dinka on the west near Lake Nyibor, Jur Modo on the south, and
Ador Dinka in the east near Yirol. *Alternate names:* ATUOT, ATWOT, THOK CIENG
REEL. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Dinka-Nuer,
Nuer.

SHATT
[SHJ] 15,000 (1984 R. C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Shatt Hills southwest of
Kadugli (Shatt Daman, Shatt Safia, Shatt Tebeldia) and parts of Abu Hashim and
Abu Sinam. *Alternate names:* CANING. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern
Sudanic, Western, Daju, Eastern Daju.

SHILLUK
[SHK] 175,000 (1982 SIL). Southern Sudan, Upper Nile Province, between Nile and
Kordofan Province boundary, from Latitude 11 in the north to about 80 miles west of
Tonga; also on the east bank of the Nile around the junction of the Nile and Sobat
rivers, and for about 20 miles up the Sobat River. *Alternate names:* COLO,
DHOCOLO, CHULLA, SHULLA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic,
Nilotic, Western, Luo, Northern, Shilluk.

SHWAI
[SHW] 3,500 (1989). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, Nuba Mountains, in villages in the Shwai Hills, northwest of Otoro near Heiban-Kadugli road. *Alternate names:* SHIRUMBA, SHUWAY, LUDUMOR, CWAYA. *Dialects:* SHABUN, CERUMBA (SHIRUMBA), NDANO. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, West-Central, Shirumba.

SINYAR
[SYS] Population total both countries 5,000 to 10,000 (1983 Bender). *Alternate names:* SINYA, SHEMYA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Sinyar.

SUNGOR
[SUN] 15,000 in Sudan. Northern Sudan, Dar Fur, Melmele in Dar Masalit. Bounded on the west by the Tama, south by the Masalit, east by Arabic-speaking nomadic groups, north by the Gimr and Jebel Mun. *Alternate names:* SOUNGOR, ASSAGORI, AZANGORI, ASONGORI, ASUNGORE, ERENGA, MADUNGORE, SHAALE. *Dialects:* GIRGA, WALAD DULLA, ERENGA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Tama, Tama-Sungor.

SURI
[SUQ] 1,000 Tirma in Sudan (1983 SIL). Southern Sudan, Boma Plateau near the Ethiopian border. *Alternate names:* SURMA. *Dialects:* TIRMA (TIRIMA, TEREMA, TERNA, DIRMA, CIRMA, TIRMAGA, TIRMAGI, TID), CHAI (CACI, CAI). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Surmic, South, Southeast, Pastoral, Suri.

TAGOI
[TAG] 13,000 (1982 SIL) including 2,000 Tagoi, 552 Moreb, 1,100 Tumale (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, Nuba Mountains, at Moreb, Tagoi, Turjok, Tumale Hill, possibly Tuling village. Tukum and Turum are places where Tagoi dialects are spoken (1956 Tucker and Bryan). *Alternate names:* TAGOY. *Dialects:* MOREB, TUMALE, TAGOI. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Rashad.

TALODI
[TLO] 1,500 (1989). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills, in Talodi town and hill, including the villages of Tasomi and Tata. *Alternate names:* GAJOMANG, AJOMANG, JOMANG. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Talodi Proper, Jomang.

TEGALI
[RAS] 35,738 (1984 R.C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Kordofan Province, Nuba Mountains, Tegali Range, Rashad hills and town of Rashad. *Alternate names:* TAGALE, TEGELE, TOGOLE, TEKELE. *Dialects:* RASHAD (KOM, NGAKOM, KOME), TEGALI. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Rashad.

TEMEIN
[TEQ] 10,000 (1984 R. C. Stevenson). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills in the Temein hills southwest of Dilling, between Jebels Ghulfan Morung and Julud (Gulud). *Alternate names:* TEMAINIAN, RONE, RONGE. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Temein.

TENNET
[TEX] 4,000 (1994 SIL). Southern Sudan, Equatoria Province, Lopit Hills, northeast of Torit, 5 villages. *Alternate names:* TENET. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Surmic, South, Southwest, Didinga-Murle, Tennet.

TESE
[KEG] 1,400 (1971 Welmers). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills, Keiga Jirru west of Debri, and in 6 villages, northeast of Kadugli. *Alternate names:* TEIS-UMM-DANAB, KEIGA JIRRU, KEIGA GIRRU. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Temein.

THURI
[THU] 6,600 (1956 Tucker and Bryan). Southern Sudan between Wau and Aweil, between Jur and Lol rivers, on Raga-Nyamlell road, and on Wau-Deim Zubeir road. *Alternate names:* DHE THURI, JO THURI, WADA THURI, SHATT. *Dialects:* BODHO (DHE BOODHO, DEMBO, DEMEN, DOMBO), COLO (DHE COLO, JUR SHOL, JO COLO), MANANGEER (JUR MANANGEER). *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Western, Luo, Northern, Thuri.

TIGRÉ
[TIE] Northern Sudan. *Alternate names:* KHASA, XASA. *Dialects:* MANSA' (MENSA). *Classification:* Afro-Asiatic, Semitic, South, Ethiopian, North.

TIMA
[TMS] 1,100 ? (1956). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills in villages on and near Jebel Tima, 10 miles southwest of Katla, West Kordofan District. *Alternate names:* LOMORIK, LOMURIKI, TAMANIK, YIBWA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Katla.

TINGAL
[TIG] 8,000 (1982 SIL). Northern Sudan, Tegali Hills. *Alternate names:* KAJAKJA, KAJAJA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Rashad.

TIRA
[TIR] 40,000 (1982 SIL). Northern Sudan, Nuba Hills in villages extending from near Otoro to the neighborhood of Talodi. *Alternate names:* TIRO, THIRO, LITHIRO. *Dialects:* KINDERMA (KANDERMA), TIRA EL AKHDAR (TIRA DAGIG), TIRA LUMUM (LUMAN), TIRA MANDI. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban, West-Central, Western.

TOCHO
[TAZ] 3,800 (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Northern Sudan, Talodi, Moro Hills.

Alternate names: TOICHO, TACHO. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Talodi Proper, Tocho.

TOPOSA
[TOQ] 100,000 (1984 M. Schroeder). Southern Sudan, along both sides of Singaita and Lokalyen rivers. The southern boundary is 4.30' N, northern 5 N, western 33.22' E, eastern 34 E. Ritual center at Loyooro River. They migrate as far as Moruangipi (34.30 E, 5.10 N), and occasionally farther east into the disputed Ilemi Triangle at the Ethiopian border for seasonal grazing. They have no permanent settlements there. The Jiye live at 5.20 N 33.45 E. *Alternate names:* TAPOSA, TOPOTHA, AKARA, KARE, KUMI. *Dialects:* EASTERN TOPOSA, WESTERN TOPOSA, JIYE. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Nilotic, Eastern, Lotuxo-Teso, Teso-Turkana, Turkana.

TULISHI
[TEY] 8,628 (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin), including 3,000 Kamdang, 2,500 Tulishi. Northern Sudan, hills south of the Nuba Hills on Jebel Tulishi south of Katla, on Jebel Kamdang north of Lagowa, south of Tulishi. *Alternate names:* TULESH, THULISHI, KUNTULISHI. *Dialects:* TULISHI, KAMDANG (KAMDA), DAR EL KABIRA (TURUJ, TRUJ, LOGOKE, MINJIMMINA). *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kadugli, Central.

TUMMA
[TBQ] 6,500 (1956 census). Northern Sudan, hills south of Nuba Hills between the Katla range and Miri. *Alternate names:* SANGALI. *Dialects:* BELANYA, KRONGO ABDALLAH, TUMMA. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kadugli, Central.

TUMTUM
[TBR] 7,300 including 6,000 in Karondi, 1,300 in Tumtum. Northern Sudan, Upper Nile Province; Kurondi south of Eliri, Talassa in the northern part of Eliri. *Dialects:* KARONDI (KURONDI, KORINDI), TALASSA (TALASA), TUMTUM. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kadugli, Eastern.

UDUK
[UDU] Northern Sudan, Upper Nile Province from Belila in the north, southwards along Blue Nile Province boundary to Yabus River. Most now in a refugee camp in Ethiopia. *Alternate names:* TWAMPA, KWANIM PA, BURUN, KEBEIRKA, OTHAN, KORARA, KUMUS. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Komuz, Koman.

WALI
[WLL] 487 (1977 Voegelin and Voegelin). Northern Sudan, in the Wali Hills, south of Karko Hills. *Alternate names:* WALARI, WALARISHE. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Hill, Unclassified.

WARNANG
[WRN] 1,100 (1956 census). Northern Sudan, on small isolated hills in the extreme eastern part of the Nuba Hills between Talodi and the White Nile. *Alternate names:* WERNI. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian, Kordofanian Proper, Heiban,

Eastern.

YULU
[YUL] 3,000 in Sudan, including 2,000 Yulu and 1,000 Binga (1987 SIL). Southern Sudan. The Yulu are at Khor Buga, 2 miles west of Raga in Western Bahr el Ghazal Province, and in Habbaniya District of Dar Fur. The Binga are at Menangba, west of Raga and in DRC. *Alternate names:* YOULOU. *Dialects:* BINGA, YULU. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West, Bongo-Bagirmi, Kara.

ZAGHEWA
[ZAG] 102,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL). Population total all countries 186,800. *Alternate names:* SOGHAUA, ZEGGAOUA, ZAGAOUA, ZORHAUA, ZAGAWA, ZAHAWA, ZEGHAWA, ZAUGE, BERRI, BERI, BERI-AA, MERIDA, KEBADI, KUYUK. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Saharan, Eastern.

ZANDE
[ZAN] 350,000 in Sudan (1982 SIL). Southern Sudan, DRC primarily, and CAR in an elongated semicircle with Uele River as its base. Some projections south. *Alternate names:* SOGHAUA, ZEGGAOUA, ZAGAOUA, ZORHAUA, ZAGAWA, ZEGHAWA, ZAUGE, BERRI, BERI, BERI-AA, MERIDA, KEBADI, KUYUKI. *Dialects:* DIO, MAKARAKA (ODIO). *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North, Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Zande, Zande-Nzakara.

Extinct languages

BAYGO
[BYG] Ethnic group 850 (1978 GR). Northern Sudan, Southern Dar Fur, in the hills east of Kube (Kubbi). Jebel Beygo. *Alternate names:* BAIGO, BEGO, BEKO, BEIGO, BEYGO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Western, Daju, Western Daju.

BERTI
[BYT] Northern Sudan. Tagabo Hills, Dar Fur, and in Kordofan. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Saharan, Eastern.

BIRKED
[BRK] Northern Sudan, north Dar Fur, north and east of Daju and Baygo, east of Jebel Marra between Jebel Harayt and the Rizaykat (Arab) country. Also north of Nyala. A few in north Kordofan south of El Obeid. *Alternate names:* BIRGUID, BIRGID, BIRKIT, BIRQED, MURGI, KAJJARA. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic, Eastern, Nubian, Central, Birked.

GULE
[GLE] Northern Sudan, Jebel Gule, San and Roro hills north of the Gaam, west of Er Roseires. *Alternate names:* ANEJ, HAMEJ, FECAKOMODIYO. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Komuz, Koman.

HOMA
[HOM] Southern Sudan, around towns of Mopoi and Tambura. *Classification:* Niger-

Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, Benue-Congo, Bantoid, Southern, Narrow
Bantu, Central, D, Bira-Huku (D.30).

MITTU
[MWU] Southern Sudan. *Classification:* Nilo-Saharan, Central Sudanic, West,
Bongo-Bagirmi, Bongo-Baka, Morokodo-Beli.

TOGOYO
[TGY] Southern Sudan, west, in a small area around Raga. *Alternate names:*
TOGOY. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Atlantic-Congo, Volta-Congo, North,
Adamawa-Ubangi, Ubangi, Sere-Ngbaka-Mba, Sere, Indri-Togoyo.

TORONA
[TQR] Northern Sudan, Talodi, Moro Hills. *Classification:* Niger-Congo, Kordofanian,
Kordofanian Proper, Talodi, Talodi Proper, Tocho.

ANNEX E

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c Pro-ruling students, opposition counterparts clash in Omdurman broadcast 10 January 2004.

[64] Al-Khartoum newspaper (via BBC Worldwide Monitoring unless otherwise stated)

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b Opposition alliance calls for involvement of all political parties dated 18 October 2003.

c Government, SPLA likely to sign accord within three days dated 8 April 2004.

[65] Al-Sahafah newspaper/web site (via BBC Worldwide Monitoring unless otherwise stated)

a Opposition party lays conditions for taking part in government dated 13 February 2004.

b Islamist leader pleads government to be 'neutral' on Darfur issue dated 3 March 2004.

c Officials say Al-Turabi 'unhinged', his anti-government remarks 'drivel' dated 16 October 2003.

d Government, opposition sign reconciliation agreement dated 5 December 2003.

e Opposition NDA denies return of tis leadership to the country dated 19 November 2003.

f Students stage protest, set fire to buildings in southeastern town dated 12 November 2003.

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h Sudan opposition party says south to split over wealth-sharing deal dated 14 January 2004.

[66] Sudanese Media Centre web site (via BBC Worldwide Monitoring unless otherwise stated)

a Ummah Party in 'intensive' contacts with government, rebels dated 12 November 2003

b Opposition NDA leader says ties with rebel SPLA head 'firm' dated 3 October 2003

c Minister blames minority party for attacks in eastern town dated 5 November 2003

d Communist leader returns to Sudan 17 December dated 17 December 2003

e Opposition alliance reportedly dissatisfied with government, rebels deal dated 22 November 2003

[67]   Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) web site (via BBC Worldwide Monitoring unless otherwise stated)

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b Sudanese intelligence says Islamist leader, Eritrea backing western rebels" dated 19 December 2003

c Opposition leader Al-Turabi accuses government of 'tyranny', 'corruption'" dated 28 November 2003

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e Rebel Beja group vows to continue military operations against government dated 20 November 2003

f Rebel Beja Congress warns SPLM. Government against faulty peace dated 22 October 2003

g Former minister accused of involvement in recent attack in south dated 2 March 2004

h Sudanese government, rebels agree on power sharing, disputed regions dated 7 April 2004

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[71] Akhir Lahzah web site (via BBC Worldwide Monitoring unless otherwise stated)

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[72] Akhba al-Yawm newspaper/web site (via BBC Worldwide Monitoring unless otherwise stated)

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